

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Vol. 21

November 1916

No. 9

Why Not Face the Facts?*

O. R. Howard Thomson librarian, J. V.
Brown library, Williamsport, Pa.

The delivery of a presidential address constitutes a task not lightly to be undertaken; for straightforwardness, not speciousness; honest, fearless statement, not platitudinous embellishments, are the stuffs of which it should be composed. There were nothing easier than in graceful phrases to recount the achievements of the past year; to tabulate and exhibit on charts the growth of libraries and their contents; to record the amazing triumph that readers have been induced to bridle their appetite for fiction and that countless children, weaned from the delights of Alger and Finley have taken to reading the "Scouts' Handbook" and "When mother lets us garden." Yet something better than this is demanded: some broader visioning of the problems and status of the institutions that have had the hardihood to proclaim themselves the "Universities of the people."

We librarians have of necessity been a meek people, for the modern library that had its birth in the beneficence of a few, exists for the most part upon the scourgings of the municipal money-pots. We are, like the ancient Israelites, expected to make bricks with but little straw provided. At the feasts of finance our helpings have been scanty: with the needy we have sat below the salt. By vast numbers of the populace we are but little esteemed; and by other vast numbers who do

esteem us, we are not used. We work hard, sometimes speak from platforms, but rarely attain canonization through inclusion in Who's Who, a publication whose taste leans rather to bankers who describe themselves as philanthropists; a term that might be more justly applied to us, for few there be hardy enough to accuse our thin little salaries of being the power behind our activities. Even our patron saint, the man who has built more libraries than any other man in the "long time since the world began" has failed us. Having more or less insured to us meagre salaries through standardizing library support on an unscientific basis (10% per annum on the cost of the building) when he establishes a pension system he does so for teachers, not librarians.

Yet despite all this—despite the devious means by which we keep our doors open and our shelves stocked—despite the mendicancy that we are compelled to practice, and it is a mendicancy that would put even our college presidents to shame, we have become a power in the land; and achieved a recognition that possibly were not ours had our path been easier.

But I think the time has come to take stock: to assess honestly our position: and to take counsel together as to the road that we must pursue if we are in any measurable way to translate into reality the possibilities of our service.

First and foremost the library is an educational institution. And though local or special conditions sometimes make it necessary to specialize largely with children, the library is first and foremost an educational institution

*Presidential address: Sixteenth annual meeting. Keystone State library association, October 12, 1916.

that should be adapted to the needs of those whose school days are past. If for no other reason than simply because the adults in the world outnumber the children four or five to one.

And just as the library is not primarily either a kindergarten or an agency for the distribution of supplementary school readers—though it must not neglect such things—it is not before all other things a substitute for that which a Board of Trade's library should be. We must, it is true, like colleges, remember the practical side of life—we must provide business and technical books for workmen and students for they can obtain them nowhere else. But we must guard our sense of proportion jealously. The whole is greater than the part. The motto on the temple at Delphi, "Nothing in excess," was cut in the stone because excess in one thing implied deficiency in another. The Goethean saying, *Im Ganzen, Guten, Schönen, resolut zu leben*, is one that librarians would do well to adopt. Do not misunderstand me; I am not criticizing, much less decrying either special libraries or the magnificent departments developed by hundreds of general libraries throughout the country: I am only trying to point out the necessity for realizing the breadth of our work. Our embarrassment, indeed, is one, not of riches, but duties. We must be on our guard against the catchwords of the moment. Business and efficiency bulk so large in the press, and on the platform today that it is well to be reminded that man is greater than his business; his development not less important than his bank account; that, as pointed out by Gregory Mason, it is symptomatic of a dangerous racial obsession when at the annual National Education Association conference, the emphasis on the practical side of education completely overshadows the idea that the function of the school is to train the mind.

There is food for thought in the astonishment of the Russian Jew, who has recorded his amazement at hearing the mayor of Boston when addressing

the high school pupils in that city admonish them to learn Spanish, not that they might become acquainted with Calderon, Cervantes and de Vega, but that they might capture South American trade—and dollars.

To affirm that no community of reasonable size can, without a public library, attain the prosperity, intellectual and commercial, that it would possess with one, is to make a statement that is not controvertible. But what do we find even in our own state? For the most part either total want or heart-breaking inadequacy. It is true that libraries are springing up, like crocuses in the spring time, in the most unlooked for places and in astonishing numbers. Yet it is a fact that no less than twenty-eight of the county seats of the State of Pennsylvania remain to this day without libraries. The various councils, boards of education and legislative bodies of the state that possesses a population in excess of 7,500,000, gave to its libraries, through grants and appropriations, in 1913 (the last year for which such statistics are available) the sum of \$707,778. That amounts, it is true, to the princely sum of a little over nine cents per capita; but as our largest two cities with 27% of the state's population got \$484,100, or 68% of the money, that which the rest of us got was not sufficient to justify unrestrained enthusiasm.

The situation throughout the country as a whole is equally deplorable. There are only 1,844 public and society libraries in the United States of over 5,000 volumes; that is one collection to each 54,000 or 55,000 persons. In these libraries there are but 50,031,000 volumes; that is one volume to each two persons; and the total annual income of all these public and society libraries is but \$16,304,128. If we take the population of the states to be 100,000,000, the per capita allotment for library purposes is 16 cents. Most families spend \$4.00 or \$5.00 a year for newspapers. Let us look a little more closely to the figures. The annual expenditure for books, binding and peri-

odicals of all the public and society libraries in 1913 was but \$4,145,230; that is, four cents per capita: an amount not even equal to the price of one copy of *The Saturday Evening Post*. Comparisons are frequently in bad taste but I cannot resist the remark that the profits of the Detroit Company, that puts out the "humble little Ford," were four times as large as the receipts of all the public libraries in the United States. The publishers of Harold Bell Wright recently printed an advertisement in which they stated that orders were received for 600,000 copies of his latest book, (priced at \$1.35) before it was published; and announced at the same time the printing of a popular edition of 1,000,000 copies of one of his earlier books at 50 cents. The amount of money the public will pay for these two editions of this Napoleon among novelists nearly equals all the expenditures for books, binding and magazines as reported to the U. S. Bureau of Education by all the public libraries of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. "Inde irae et lacrimae!" said Juvenal.

But libraries, though they receive small incomes, are frequently endowed it is said. They are. The total endowment of all the public libraries, in 1913, amounted to \$37,014,838. If the funds produce 5%, library receipts from this source would be about \$1,850,000—something under two cents per capita; insufficient to pay the postage on a letter to each inhabitant of the country informing him of our inability to purchase the book he suggested for our collections. We are making progress, but it is hard to live up to the tenth commandment when we read that each year bequests to the endowment funds of our universities add to them an amount in excess of the gross receipts of all our libraries.

The only possible justification for remarks and comparisons of this sort—and I could continue in this strain for hours—is a passionate belief in the educational power of libraries; a robust, militant faith in the necessity for them, if

the people—the great masses whose incomes deny them access in other ways to the storehouses of knowledge and thought—are not to be kept perpetually in mental and economic servitude. Access to a library competent to his needs should be the right of every citizen—a right written as effectually into the laws of the state as is his right to an education. Laws relating to libraries should not merely give permission to various city, borough or township bodies to organize libraries at their pleasure; they should be mandatory; they should make it obligatory upon them to do so in a proper manner. Libraries should no longer be dependent upon the scanty proceeds of rummage sales and coöperative efforts in connection with baby shows and "clean-up" days. They should be made as integral a part of the educational system as are our colleges, those institutions that, like the libraries, take the graduate of the school into their halls in order that he may grow mentally.

In this state, at the last legislature, after years of effort, we succeeded in securing the passage of a bill that, in addition to codifying previously existing laws added new provisions. The Governor vetoed it on various grounds and stated in his veto that many cities had protested to him that under it the mandatory taxation was excessive. Whether it was quite correct to state that a tax of one mill was mandatory, when the act distinctly stated that the tax should be that "or so much thereof as may be certified by the board of library trustees to be necessary" is possibly not important. What is important is the obvious antagonism of city councils and other governing bodies to the transfer of the power to establish libraries from themselves to the electorate: and still more to a law that would insure to libraries financial support that bulks large when compared with the pittances doled out to them in the past.

We might as well face the facts. Given sufficient funds to enable us to purchase works for which our patrons are justified in asking, we can do much. We can aid, in a manner no other human agency

can aid, the growth of this people into a race, clearer-minded and better intellectually equipped than even that of which our forefathers dreamed. Our peculiar power has never been better characterized than by Miss Plummer, in the address she wrote for the Asbury Park meeting. We are, by Miss Plummer's untimely death, greatly the poorer, yet it is difficult to believe that had the graciousness of her presence been spared to us longer, that she could have rendered any greater service to our profession than she did by placing on record her perception of the public library as almost the last citadel of truth. "Free will to choose," wrote Miss Plummer, "must be based upon a knowledge of good and evil; access to all the factors for making choices must be free to the people of a democracy" and, she added, "the free library is one of the few places where education and wisdom can be obtained for preparation in making of choices."

All our formal agencies of education, religious and secular, have a tendency to teach us what to think rather than how to think and class consciousness permeating every strata of society has brought many of them under suspicion. Our newspapers are less esteemed than formerly being prone to take sides with the easy conscience of politicians—apt to sin on the one hand by suppression, on the other by over-emphasis. Today it is probable that the library enjoys a larger measure of the public faith in its desire to submit both sides of all questions than any other institution in existence. Its "index prohibitorum" is indeed the thinnest of volumes.

This is our chiefest heritage and the one we must preserve at any cost. It is this that makes it so important for us to avoid entangling alliances; but that also gives us the right to demand adequate support out of the public income. We cannot even buy, much less handle properly, the data that we should possess unless we secure adequate funds to do so. What clergyman or engineer, musician or sociologist ever found a public library in a small town equal to his necessities? What efficient manufacturer or power

engineer in a small town does not pay out annually more money for technical periodicals than does the library to which the rest of the citizens must turn?

I think that the time has come when what we have done, through an unparalleled resourcefulness, justifies us in demanding greater recognition and more liberal support. It may be true that we can become educated through the perusal of three feet of books, we have at least been told so in emphatic phrases by emphatic men; but it is certain that a library is not competent to the needs of its users with three hundred, no, nor with three thousand, feet of books. Something like twenty-eight thousand volumes by men and women who are living, working and thinking today, issue each year from English and American presses. We should be able to place at the service of people that which is valuable in this tremendous output; as well as the best of the unbelievable mass that has appeared in the past. It were pitiful to measure the width of the chasm that separates our wishes from our deeds.

So I think we must straighten up our backs a little and set our jaws a trifle firmer. If we are compelled to eke out our scanty treasuries by fairs and library days, we must let it be known that such expedients should be unnecessary; are in fact, measures which any just community should blush to see employed.

It is worth while to spend money for a thing like a real library: even if we look upon it chiefly as a purveyor of supplementary reading to school-children; as a distributor of novels to tired and weary shop-girls; as the provider of text books to ambitious workmen and engineers; or as a doorway into that kingdom, where knowledge, married to culture, walks at ease amidst the flowers of the human intellect.

Still less shall we consider the price if we regard the library as Miss Plummer visioned it, a place giving access to the material for making choices—a laboratory wherein democracy extracts from ores of differing qualities the gold, whereof it makes the crown wherewith it shall be ultimately crowned.

Business Methods in Libraries *

R. L. Walkley, assistant librarian Public library, Minneapolis, Minn.

To consider the general subject of library administration in Minnesota seems like quite a proposition when we have to consider libraries whose income varies from \$25 to nearly \$200,000 per year, in villages with a population of two or three hundred people, as well as in cities of two or three hundred thousand.

I have had a chance to look over the reports which have been sent into the public library commission, and have spent some time juggling the figures they show. It is said that you can prove anything by figures, but I have proved the fallacy of that statement, as far as I am concerned. The figures do show, however, a certain inattention on the part of library boards and librarians to the financial side of library support, and from observation I know that they pay just as little attention to the often unbusinesslike attitude and methods of the library assistants. Of these I want to speak later.

First, then, the boards of directors or trustees are responsible for the library money and for the way it is spent, as well as for directing the running of the library. Many of them are business men, who are occupied in their own work with getting and spending money, two matters of the greatest importance to the library. But apparently they never think of applying to the library finances the methods they use in their private business.

This state has been disgraced by at least eight libraries which have not lived up to the Carnegie agreement in the spending of money for library maintenance. This agreement is, as you know, that libraries which accept a certain amount from Carnegie for a building shall spend at least one-tenth of this amount every year for maintaining the building and its work. And this means

not only ten per cent appropriated, but *actually spent*.

The showing of the libraries which have fallen below this requirement appears still worse when we consider that in some cases the Carnegie funds were donated and the agreement made several years ago. At that time one-tenth of the cost of the building was considered a minimum of annual expense. With increasing population to be served this minimum requirement is surely not enough today. Those towns which are appropriating and spending only about ten per cent or less are simply robbing their citizens of adequate library service.

Fortunately for the reputation of the state, the average amount spent for the support of Carnegie libraries is considerably above the required sum. The reports show that for all Carnegie libraries in Minnesota, including even those which have failed to spend the required ten per cent, the annual expenditures are nearly fifteen per cent of the original cost of the building. This means that some of them must spend about twenty per cent, or one-fifth of the Carnegie donation, making up for the eight which do not live up to the moral obligation of their Carnegie agreement.

A much better way to estimate what ought to be appropriated and spent is to use the population figures. In this state the average sum spent in the 68 towns from which we have received reports* is over 50 cents per person. As a matter of fact the average is probably a little less than that, for we have in most cases only the figures of the 1910 census for our population statistics. For the 38 Carnegie libraries, I find that the amount spent per capita is lower still—only about 43 cents for each inhabitant. Now we have figures to prove that the average town with a Carnegie library spends about 15 per cent of the original

*Read at Minnesota library association meeting, held at Virginia, September 7-9, 1916.

*All the figures in this paper are based on the reports of 68 libraries. This includes all cities of over 5,000 people, and all but nine cities of 2,000 or more, of which there are 52 in Minnesota.

cost of the building, but that it spends less per capita for library support than other towns in the state. If the Carnegie libraries in Minnesota spent only the minimum ten per cent required, they would spend exactly 30 cents per capita. In comparison with the average of over 50 cents for the whole state, this makes the Carnegie requirement seem still more inadequate. It only goes to show that towns with Carnegie libraries should wake up and bring their per capita library expense to at least 50 cents. This should be a minimum below which no city should fall.

Compared with appropriation allowed by law, even 50 cents for every person is too little. I wonder how many library board members know that any city or village in Minnesota with less than 25,000 people is allowed an income from taxes of three mills on the dollar? Some towns in the state spend over a dollar for every person, and even these do not appropriate the full percentage allowed by law.

There is at least one library which actually gets the full three mills, and it spends about \$1.75 for every person in the town of about 1,000 people! Think of the possibilities if your library received all the taxes it could get!

Another question is, would the money be spent? In looking over the reports, I noticed in most cases a most overwhelming balance at the end of the year; in some cases it amounted to more than the income from taxes! No wonder there are so many chronic kickers who complain that they can't get what they want in the library, when the library doesn't spend nearly as much as it gets. And in all probability it doesn't get nearly as much as it needs. There is one encouraging sign, however. This is that in most cases the balance was less at the end of the year than at the beginning, that the library is spending more than it actually receives. We hope this shows a growth in work and in needs, and that somebody is waking up to it.

If this continues, the libraries will soon use up the balance and have to

ask for a larger appropriation. To get this it is never enough to say, "We want more money." The men who make the appropriations want to know why. They want definite reasons, for they are business men, and have to deal with facts presented in a definite way. They want to know what you will spend more money for. One of the best ways to estimate this is to figure out what you have been spending your money for—what proportion of it you have spent for salaries, for books, periodicals and binding, for rent, heat, light, repairs and supplies. By classifying your expenses for the past year according to these items, it is not very hard to make a budget, or financial estimate, of the amount to be spent for each item for the next year. The more accurate and definite such an estimate is, the better is the chance of getting more money. If you place side by side, in the budget the expenses for the past year and the estimate for the coming year, it is easy to show just what you need more money for. For such items as light, rent, heat and janitor service, you will need about the same amount as last year, to meet continuing needs. Other expenses will gradually or automatically increase with the growth of the work, as books, supplies and salaries. For repairs and furniture, and other enlargements in physical equipment and service, expenses will vary from year to year. These variable and uncertain expenses must be foreseen, as far as possible, and allowance made for them before they are absolutely necessary. Otherwise you may have an extra expense without funds to cover it. Or if there are enough funds, you may have to give up buying as many books as you allowed for. And this should never happen, though it often does happen—we buy books with what money there is left. Why not insist on a certain amount being appropriated for books, periodicals, and binding, increasing it in proportion as other expenses increase? In the average small library without any branches to increase the expense of maintenance, the proportion

of expenditures for books approximates a certain percentage.

From a further analysis of the Minnesota reports, I find that the proportion spent for books, periodicals and binding averages about 27% of the total expense, for salaries of staff and janitors, about 44%, for other expenses, about 29%.

Not only in asking for an appropriation does a classified budget help in making estimates more definite, but the same system should be used to apportion the money for different purposes after you find out what the appropriation is. This will prevent the deplorable and unbusinesslike accumulation of a large balance or a deficit, and is absolutely necessary where an unexpended balance reverts to the city treasury at the end of the year. The percentages I have worked out may serve as a guide in making the apportionment, but they will vary from year to year in any library. This is especially true of a small library, where an unusual expenditure for insurance, repairs or improvements takes a large part of the funds in one year, but does not have to be repeated.

There is still another use for this classification of expenditures. The librarian will find it an easy matter to divide them up from month to month as called for in the report sheet which the Library commission sends out for her to fill in. This will enable her to indicate accurately and concisely, at each board meeting, the condition of the funds, as well as to present the expected report on her work. These definite facts will furnish a basis for the board to decide just what work may be continued and what new work may be undertaken with the money still unspent. In case there is not enough money for the increasing needs of a growing library, the figures will also help to show that fact.

In obtaining money to run a library, as in making money for any business, we have a certain amount of competition. This competition, in our case, is with other city departments and insti-

tutions, and is being placed more and more on a business basis. One very important factor in business dealings is known as "good will." This is something very intangible, but very valuable. In getting funds for a library, it is necessary to have the good will of the taxpayers who pay for and use the library, as this will influence those who are more directly responsible for appropriating the money we need. Of course the more directly we can appeal to those who actually make the appropriations, the better chance we have. I think there is no need of advising the business men of library boards that they must show results, and keep the board of tax levy informed of them. I have suggested the classified budget system as one definite way of doing this. Another is the annual report, which may be attractive and readable as well as informing.

A less direct method is to gain the good will of the business men of the community, who usually keep in closer touch with appropriations from taxes than any other numerically equal group of taxpayers. This good will can be gained in several ways:

- 1) by giving them direct help in their business by furnishing from books and articles the facts and statistics they need; and the more quickly and accurately such facts are furnished, the more will the library's service be appreciated by the business man.

- 2) by cutting out any red tape which may seem like a waste of time for a busy man.

- 3) by patronizing home industry when prices, service and quality are about equal. A few cents or a few dollars more paid to local firms for books or supplies buys also a certain amount of good will.

- 4) by being accurate and businesslike in all business dealings—in ordering books and supplies, in making contracts for work and in seeing that they are carried out, and especially in the prompt payment of all bills. A whole paper could be written without covering the many little labor savers which

might be included under the head of businesslike. The more liberal use of the telephone for library purposes, and its less frequent use for personal visits is one improvement that might be suggested. The use of a typewriter for all correspondence is another thing which makes for a good impression by reason of its neatness, clearness, and the smaller amount of time required to read the results. The systematic filing of all letters received, with carbon copies of all letters sent out, is often a great time saver in case of sudden demand. Then too, too many libraries use too little business courtesy and promptness in acknowledging letters which very clearly expect a reply. The tendency is too much in the other direction in acknowledging the receipt of annual reports and material exchanged with libraries and other institutions. Why should not libraries have a common agreement which would prevent the waste of time and expense of sending such unnecessary postcard acknowledgments of material exchanged periodically? You can yourself think of many other labor-saving devices which make for neatness and clearness. Library of Congress cards, rubber stamps, and gummed letters for making signs and labels are only a few of them.

And yet in applying all such business methods there may be the danger of our becoming too mechanical in our treatment of patrons. A recent article in *System* gave a list of reasons why patrons are dissatisfied with certain stores, based on careful inquiry and investigation. This showed that 24% of the dissatisfaction was the result of the indifference of sales people, and 18% a combination of their over-insistence, insolence, and ignorance. I imagine a great many of these criticisms may have existed only in the minds of the customers, although I have known libraries, as well as stores, in which the assistants could be criticised for these very reasons. Such attitudes may be entirely unintentional and involuntary, but that does not prevent the feeling of dissatisfaction in the patron. A large

public service corporation has found the two following rules to be such good business that they are printed in the book of instructions for their employees:

- 1) Your attitude to your patrons must be sincere; if you are sincere and they know you are sincere, you will have their good will.

- 2) Answer all questions that are addressed to you; no matter if the questions seem foolish, give civil replies.

Some business men go so far as to give instructions to their employees to the effect that "the public is always right." What would be the effect of introducing such principles into a library? Yet we have the same problem as any store or business house, that of finding the golden mean between mechanical service to the public and a haphazard, lackadaisical supplying of their demands.

There is another non-personal matter which helps to determine the feeling either of good will or dissatisfaction in library users, and that is the condition of the physical equipment of the library. Poor janitor service or inattention to repairs of building or furniture may give the library such a dingy appearance that it drives away borrowers and users who like an attractive place.

And we must not forget that books are also a part of our physical equipment. It is a hard thing for a poor library to discard books before they are worn out, but some books become filthy enough from hard use to warrant it. The attractiveness of the library shelves is very much marred by such books, and also by the dull and dingy colors in which many library books are rebound.

I realize that all these conditions can be found only in the ideal library which has enough money to attain these standards, but I am sure you will agree with me that by following out some of these principles which have proved to be worth while in modern business, a library can grow and increase in more ways than one. Think of the saying that "a satisfied customer is our best advertisement," which can be applied

to libraries as well as to business houses, though it is not by any means wholly true of either. If it were, what excuse would a business house have for spending so much on other forms of advertising? No business which aims to grow can depend on its "satisfied customers" for advertising, and no more can a library. In most libraries the attempts to attract readers are as unsystematic and unbusinesslike as the other methods. The A. L. A. is now considering some plans which may help libraries all over the country in their advertising. If these plans are carried out, we shall all have a more scientific way of making all possible individuals and classes realize what our libraries can do for them in their business and in their pleasure. By that time I hope we shall have learned enough about getting a patron's good will so that we can make of every casual and occasional visitor whom we have attracted by advertising, a regular borrower and user.

The Library and the Book Trade*

**W. H. Brett, librarian Public library,
Cleveland, Ohio**

I have had the opportunity within the past few weeks of discussing the relations of the library to the book-seller and publisher, with some of the largest book-sellers in the country who pay especial attention to library business, and have been greatly interested in what they have told me.

I endeavored first to get some information as to the importance of the library business to the book trade. I have the impression that, while the library business is undoubtedly important, still the books purchased by libraries are a very small part of the entire book sales of the country. This is something of which I realize it would be impossible to give any accurate figures; I have been interested in the guesses that have been made, varying from 1 to 15 or 20 per cent; possibly the average opinion would be that the

libraries take 2 per cent of the volume of novels published in the country, and not over 10 per cent of the other books; my own guess would be that both these figures are too high.

Another opinion in which I was interested was expressed by two leading dealers, namely, that somewhere from 40 to 60 per cent—averaging the opinions, I would say 50 per cent of the book-selling to libraries is in the hands of a few large book jobbers who pay especial attention to library business; while this, I imagine, is largely guess work, there can be no question but that a very large share of the business is done by these dealers, while the business done by the remainder and second-hand houses is considerable but very small in comparison with that of the regular jobbers.

The most outstanding question—the one which comes into mind when we discuss our relations with the book-seller—is that of price; and I will consider that first. I have asked myself, and I have asked others, why a library should have a discount as a library; and I have never received a satisfactory answer. My own view is that there is no ground for thinking that libraries should have special treatment and receive any special consideration, on account of the nature of their work; and I think the feeling that they should, so far as it exists, is a survival from those early days when the minister and the teacher were given a discount on account of their educational service to the community, and doubtless also because they were known not to receive very large salaries. The result was that in a few years discounts became very general, everybody expected 20 off—very much to the demoralization of the book trade. To remedy this it became necessary to bring about a gradual change to net prices.

It is fundamentally unsound to base the question of price or discount on the occupation or the purpose of use on the part of the purchaser. The minister and teacher ought to be paid enough to buy their books as other people; and

*Read before the A. L. A. at Asbury Park, N. J., June 30, 1916.

this is equally true of the library. It is supported by public taxation, in which case the book-seller pays his share, as other citizens, and should not be asked to make a special additional contribution in the way of discounts greater than the volume and character of the business would warrant; or, it is supported by endowment, in which case the donor certainly would not want the book-seller more than any other citizen to help support the library.

The only logical and fair way of fixing prices and discounts for any purchaser is to gauge them by the volume and character of the purchases. The library book-buyer has a right to expect as large discounts and as generous treatment in every way as is accorded to any buyer of equal quantities and of the same goods, modified by other considerations which affect the value of the business to the dealer; some of these are:

1. The intelligence and accuracy with which orders are placed.
2. The certainty that payment will be made.
3. The promptness with which payment is made.
4. The amount of goods returned.

And about these things I have the opinion of a considerable number of book-dealers.

1. As to this, I find that libraries stand fairly well though the dealers say there is a very great deal of difference. The large library, where the work is thoroughly systematized, sends its orders accurately and carefully made out, giving all the necessary data, and therefore easy to fill. On the other hand, many libraries are careless in giving the information, uncertain as to what they want, and if the purchases are made personally, take a great deal of time in their selection. I think the consensus of opinion from the book-dealers is that the majority of large libraries are above the average customer as to the form in which their orders are placed, and that many of the smaller libraries are very much

below the average, requiring more attention and time to sell the same amount of books than the ordinary private buyer.

2. As to this item, the credit of libraries is beyond question, according to the general testimony of book-sellers. The loss of a library account is very rare.

3. As to the item, time of payment, libraries are, on the average, prompt. There are occasional delays, due generally to formalities. They probably average better than the private buyer.

4. As to the return of books, libraries rank very low in the estimation of book-sellers. While many book-sellers send out books on approval and accept their return as part of the business, and sometimes permit books to be returned which were not on approval, in case the library decided afterwards to return them, there is no question but this is a very serious deduction from the value of the business of the library to the book-seller and may fairly, and actually does, affect the discount which the book-seller can afford to make.

The objections to the return of books are:

First, and I suppose really most serious, is the work involved. I saw an illustration of this lately. If one hundred dollars worth of books are sent out on approval and \$25 worth are returned—assuming, which I think is really true, that it is almost as much trouble to the book-seller to receive books back, check the bills and restore them to their places, as it was in the first place to bill and sell them—such a deal would mean that the book-seller handles \$125 worth of books in order to sell \$75 worth, at an expense which greatly lessens the profit of the transaction, if it does not render it entirely profitless. The overhead expense of the book-seller is one which the librarian does not always take into account.

Another serious objection to the return of books is the difficulty of keeping them from injury. It is practically impossible for even a careful reader to

read a book through without making a second-hand book of it. If you will notice a book which has been read, lying flat on the table, you will usually observe that the accurate curve of the front and the back is gone, one of the covers projects beyond the other, and the front is comparatively flat. The book is not fit to go onto the shelf of the book-seller and be sold as a new book to the fastidious buyer; it would probably go to a library without question, if the book-seller happened to have another library customer for it. I have no doubt but that many book-sellers endure very serious impositions of this sort rather than disturb their pleasant relations with library customers, believing that on the whole the business with libraries is profitable. This I think, in simple fairness to the book-sellers, should be adjusted in some way, possibly by the reduction of discount on books which are sent on approval, so that the larger profit on those retained would fairly offset the injury to those which are returned.

There are, however, certain other very important things involved in the relation of libraries to the book-trade, relations of mutual service. I have been greatly impressed during the years in which I have known something of and have had some experience in library book-buying, with the thoroughly honest service rendered to libraries by book-sellers, and more particularly by those larger jobbers who pay especial attention to the business of libraries, studying it carefully, and equipping themselves to give satisfactory service. Such a book-seller will not intentionally sell to a library a book which he does not believe to be the best selection, the best edition, or a desirable purchase for the library.

The library may and does receive from the book-seller most valuable service in the making up of its orders; the larger library, with its fuller equipment of bibliographies, keeping up with the trade lists and journals, is much better able to select books wisely than is the small library; but even the large library may receive valuable assistance from the intelligent and well-equipped book-seller; and

the small library with a meagre supply of trade-helps needs such assistance much more. I am impressed with the fact that the intelligent book-seller does render real service to the library in addition to merely filling the orders as placed.

On the other hand, I am no less confident that the library renders a great service to the book-seller, in educating an army of readers who are and will be more or less book-buyers, and the aggregate of whose purchases I believe will very much more than offset any lessening of book-buying which may come from the fact that books may be had free in the library. This phase of the question was most admirably treated by Mr Dudgeon in a recent paper at the book-sellers' meeting in Chicago, and was compared with the methods adopted by organizations in various lines of business to create a demand for their goods. As to this particular question—whether the library increases or diminishes the business of the book-seller—there is a very wide difference of opinion among book-sellers. So far as I can learn, some of the larger book-sellers are inclined to regard the library on the whole as helpful to the book business, while others disagree with this, and the smaller book-sellers more generally seem inclined to look upon the library as rather a rival and a detriment to their business. My own view of it is that the library and the book-store are mutually serviceable to each other. The book-seller may, and the best of them do, give to the library more than mere exchange of so many books for so much money without reference to the interests of the library. They give, beyond this, an intelligent and valuable service and a genuine interest which lead them to regard the library's advantage as well as their own. On the other hand, librarians should, and many of them do, realize the difficult problems of the book-seller.

The interests of both the library and the book trade would be promoted by a better understanding on the part of librarians of the problems and difficulties of the publisher and book-seller. No fairminded librarian wants a book-seller

to sell books at a rate so low as not to afford a reasonable profit. On the other hand every librarian should insist on the lowest rates that the volume and character of his purchases will justify. Nor should the library whose orders are carefully made and intelligible and whose bills are promptly paid have its discounts held down for the shortcomings of other institutions.

Better acquaintance and mutual understanding of each other's problems should furnish a substantial basis for business relations advantageous to both libraries and the book trade.

Classification of War Literature

Editor Public Libraries:

We have recently drawn up a classification for our European War collection, which I submit herewith in the hope that some reader of Public Libraries may offer criticism or suggestion.

It is our intention to keep this material in a special room and the letter Z is an arbitrary designation.

We hope to have a special book plate for the collection also and would welcome any suggestions as to a possible design.

Very truly yours,
LOUIS N. WILSON,

Librarian, Clark university.

Classification for European war collection
Clark university, Worcester, Mass.

Z0—Reference works; Year Books; Handbooks; Almanacs; Chronologies; etc.

1. Bibliography.
2. Biography.
 1. Collective.
 2. Individual.
 3. Rolls of honor, service, etc.
3. Dictionaries; Language manuals, Military terms, etc. (Slang, Argot, etc.)
4. Atlases, Maps.

Z1—General works and Histories of the war.

1. European history & politics. (General.) For special countries *see* country.
2. Prophecies; Political forecasts, etc.
3. Causes.
4. Diplomatic history; Correspondence; Official docs.
5. Official correspondence of General Staffs; Dispatches, etc.
6. Collected works on war. *Special.* (not included in Z1.) (Lectures; Various problems; etc.)
 1. Nationality; Patriotism;
 - 2.
 3. Psychology; Philosophy; (incl. German philos., etc) (Psy. of German race, etc.)
 5. Geography. (See also Science & the war.)

Z2—Special histories of war.

1. Personal narratives; Private correspondence. (For Narratives on Spec. campaigns: Hospitals: Religion: Prisons: Ambulance work *see* Special subjects.)
2. Military history & Special campaigns; Sieges; Battles; (Liege; Louvain)
3. Naval history.
4. Aerial operations; Zeppelin raids.
5. Nations engaged in the war. (Allies.)
 1. Great Britain & Colonies.
 2. France.
 3. Russia.
 4. Belgium.
 5. Italy.
 6. Germany.
 7. Austria.
 8. Turkey.
 9. Other countries. (9. Jews & the war.)
6. Neutral nations & the war.
 1. U. S.
 2. S. A.
 3. Denmark.
 4. Norway & Sweden.
 5. Netherlands.
 6. Switzerland.

Z3—International law & relations.

1. Treaties; Alliances.
2. War; Laws of war; (Emergency legislation)

3. Legislation; Ordinances; etc. rel. to occupied & conquered territory.
4. Blockades; Contraband of war; Claims, etc. (Prize courts.)
5. Neutrality. (For Neutrality of Special countries *see* country.)
6. Peace; Arbitration; (*Internat. coöp., arbitration, govt.*)
- Z4—Military art & science; Militarism;
 1. Armies; Military training: Cavalry, etc.
 2. Navies; War ships; Submarines; etc.
 3. Aeronautics; Airships; etc.
 4. Arms; Art of war; Strategy, Tactics; etc.
 5. National defense; Conscription; Recruiting; Preparedness.
 6. Espionage.
 7. Relief work (Refugees); Red Cross; Ambulance & med. science. Military hygiene.
 8. Sciences & war. Physics of war; Geology; Chemistry.
- Z5—Economic questions & the war.
 1. Commerce; Trade.
 2. Food.
 3. Employment & labor.
 4. Drink question.
 5. Finance & taxation; Insurance; Rent; etc.
 6. Land question.
 7. Social questions; (Population; Eugenics; Marriage; War babies; Mortality)
 8. Socialism.
- Z6—Illustrative material.
 1. Collections of poetry & drama (Theatre)
 1. English.
 2. French.
 3. German.
 2. Fiction.
 3. Juvenile works; fiction & non-fiction.
 4. Religion & the war; Sermons; Prayers; Hymns; Ethical problems.
 5. War myths; (Spiritualism,—) (i. e. Angel warriors of Mons.)
 6. Anecdotes;
 7. Gift books; Albums; Illus. books; Portraits.
 8. Humor & cartoons; Post cards.
- Z7—Celebrations; Commemorations; etc.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 3. War museums; Flags; Trophies; etc.
 4. Monuments; Memorials;
 5. Medals.
- Z8—Miscellany.
 1. Atrocities.
 2. Prisons & Prisoners.
 3. Work with wounded & cripples. (not included in Z4.7) (Amusements; Instruction.)
 4. Women & the war.
 5. Children & the war. (Boy scouts.) (Schools & the war; Educ. & the war.)
 6. Civilians & the war.
 7. Press; War correspondents; censorship;
 8. Animals & the war.
- Z9—Settlement; Outcome; Result.

More Promptness Requested

Some important libraries have not yet sent in their replies to the circular of the Decimal classification advisory committee of the A. L. A.

These should all be in the Secretary's hands by November 15, when the final tabulations will be made upon which the future expansions of the committee will be based.

A. LAW VOGEL.

An Appeal to Librarians

As a public librarian intensely interested in raising standards of reading, especially among children, no less than as a member of the Library commission of the Boy Scouts of America I wish to ask the help of my professional colleagues in securing the observance of the new federal act incorporating the Boy Scouts of America in so far as it applies to Boy Scout books. This incorporation act provides that the corporation created shall have the sole and exclusive right to have and to use, in carrying out its purposes, all emblems and badges, descriptive or designating marks, and words or phrases now or heretofore used by the Boy Scouts

of America in carrying out its program, it being distinctly and definitely understood, however, that nothing in this Act shall interfere or conflict with established or vested rights:

The last clause will make it possible for many books that are travesties of Boy Scouts now published to continue to be marketed. It is, however, contended by the Boys Scout organization that the publication of any more books that similarly misrepresent the movement can be prevented under the law. Will not librarians cooperate with the Boy Scout library commission by bringing to our attention books that they believe give a false idea of the spirit and purpose of the Boy Scout movement? Such information should be sent to Mr Franklin K. Mathiews, Chief Scout librarian, Boy Scouts of America, 200 Fifth Ave., New York.

GEORGE F. BOWERMAN.

Washington, D. C.

A Library Exhibit

An interesting exhibit was recently displayed in the Adams memorial library at Wheaton, Ill.

Butterflies were caught, mounted and classified by boys and girls of Wheaton. In the 35 or 40 different species, the variety made a display of brilliant coloring in one of the reading rooms used for the display. The butterflies mounted in picture frames were arranged on tables; cut flowers and blooming plants added to the attractiveness of the display. On a bulletin board just at the entrance to the room was a poster with the figures 1916 worked out from pictures of yellow butterflies, and the announcement in black letters, "Butterfly exhibit by children of Wheaton."

The display was quite popular and aroused or awakened an interest in the life history of the butterfly, different stages of development, their injury to the trees. Material was at hand, giving methods for the protection of the many and beautiful shade trees for which Wheaton is noted.

We feel that the display was not only popular but also beneficial.

EMMA BOYD, Librarian.

Improvement Called For

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I should like to ask through the columns of PUBLIC LIBRARIES for a more general interest on the part of the members of the association in the work of the A. L. A. Publishing Board.

There seems to me to be a great lack along this line. It also seems to me that the publishing is done at the instance of those who have something to publish, rather than to meet the demand of any considerable number of the members of the Association. Many of the things which it has sent out are duplicates of things that have already been done, just as well, and in some cases, better, by somebody else.

More attention on the part of somebody has been called for very plainly in some of the things that have been issued in recent years. Does anybody know just how the A. L. A. Publishing Board arrives at the selection of the things it publishes? On the occasion of what many considered a grievous error in a publication not long since, not one responsible in the matter would acknowledge that they knew the error existed before it was sent broadcast into the library field.

I hope a great interest will be created in this matter, and that the room for improvement which exists will be quickly occupied.

ONE INTERESTED.

A Useful Card

The library of the Massachusetts agricultural college at Amherst has prepared a printed slip for insertion in various places through the catalog trays, with the idea of helping the uninitiated to become better acquainted with the catalog. The slip rises a centimeter above the rest of the card, and on this projection is printed, "How to use this catalog." Then follow minute directions and explanations of the catalog, which close with the direction, "If you cannot find what you want, do not hesitate to ask for assistance."

As It Was of Old

Friedrich Adolph Ebert; The training of a librarian. Translated from the second, 1820, German edition, by Selma Nachman. Introduction by Aksel G. S. Josephson.—The Elm Tree Press, Woodstock, Vermont, 1916, vii+39p., 8°.

The original of this translation was published nearly a hundred years ago. Its survival and selection for the present honors are due to the fact that every true librarian will awake to the enthusiasm of his calling by reviewing the maxims and ideas set forth by a master in our profession—one who was successful and presumably happy. The book was published in the twenty-ninth year of Ebert's life and may be viewed as a confession of bibliological faith evolved by one born to his profession and who carried the red thread of historic continuance of its highest ideals.

Ebert demands of the would-be librarian 1) great self-denial; 2) a thorough education in languages, history and bibliography; 3) freedom from prejudice; 4) a good memory; 5) a neat, clear, yet very rapid handwriting; 6) some manual dexterity in bookbinding. The acquisition of all this is one of the preliminary steps. Next come the professional studies. Text books of library science should be avoided and good catalogs substituted as educative reading, particularly Francke's *Cat. Bibl. Bunaviana*, the great systematized catalogs (Pinelli, Thott, Banks, etc.); the student then should collect titles on some special topic and develop an organized arrangement of them. Classification should be based on historical division, on contents more than on form; on practical localization more than on supposed logical subdivision. Expansive systems are recommended. But administrative duties should not be separated from strictly professional routine work.

An official diary is recommended for the librarian, as it helps to create a scheme of continued well-defined effort. Finally, "the librarian should be an Argus with a hundred eyes, alert for concealed sources of knowledge, obliging in revealing them, yet fearless in guarding

the dignity of his position as a servant to all humanity. A librarian of the true blood will exemplify that self-abnegation which places him on duty every hour of his day; *non fit sed nascitur*, hence he will confess: *aliis inserviando consumor*. But in order to live according to these lights, he must be free to govern his library without undue interference," and his position must be secured by a salary adequate to his love for his calling!

This gem of a book was mined by Mr Josephson, diligently and tastefully cut by Miss Selma Nachman, and carefully set by the Elm Tree Press. All deserve praise and credit for removing the dust of a hundred years from the treasure.

J. C. B.

Good Book Week

December 4-9, 1916

Librarians can assist by holding book exhibits and distributing book-lists. In some instances librarians find it helpful in coöperating with local booksellers in publishing a list. In promoting publicity plans it would be helpful to mention "Good Book Week" in the *Monthly Bulletin*; and newspaper editors can be easily persuaded to write editorials and publish articles as well as lists of books.

Women's organizations of all sorts can be easily interested. It may be suggested to them that the subject "Books for Christmas for the children" be discussed either at the November or December meetings. Effort also should be made to supply speakers. Experience in promoting Safety First Juvenile book week has demonstrated that it is easily possible to persuade the ministers to preach on the importance of children's reading. They too would doubtless be sufficiently interested to make mention of Good Book Week in their weekly calendars.

As for the book stores, most of them will be interested in making window displays, and in many instances they will be glad to make a special exhibit of books approved by the local library. Effort should also be made to have them distribute lists of these books.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$2 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$8 a year
Single number	- - - - -	25 cents
Foreign subscriptions	- - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Fall meetings—The month of October was especially set apart by the number and quality of library meetings held in it. Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri and Texas state associations, to mention a few, held their annual meetings and in reading their proceedings, some of which are in this number, one is struck by the buoyant spirit which prevailed in planning future work.

One factor of interest stands out in most of them, the sincere desire to understand more clearly the relation of the library to the community for which and by whom it is maintained. This is shown by the presence of outside speakers interested in promoting some form of public education or welfare which the library ought to consider in providing service and material to meet the needs, intellectual, practical and spiritual, of the people in its environment.

Purely technical problems were put into special round-tables and only the general problems of library policy and progress were in the open forum. There seems to have been an absence for the most part of any playing to the galleries, and a real constructive spirit shown in the most of what was said.

Here and there attention was called to the deficiency of means and measures which hinders the proper conduct of the library's work, which deficiency clearly is owing to lack of vision or ability or interest on the part of the library trustees. It's all very well to say, "Secure a good librarian and let her or him do the work," when one means actual library work, but too many times, such a policy is made to include the things which lie outside the province of the librarian, and however much interest one may feel in it, clearly lies in the duty of the "one who has accepted the trust" of caring for the welfare of the library. The trustees are certainly behind the procession of library progress.

One could not help but wonder at several junctures if it would not be a good thing if some of the state universities which hold summer library schools should offer a week's program especially for library trustees, just as they do for farmers, stockmen, engineers, etc. Such a week might do much to bring about a broader notion of extension, economy and administration as related to public library functions. What university will be the first to try it?

The thoughtful papers of Mr Walkley and of Mr Thomson elsewhere in this number ought to be read at special meetings of library boards in an effort to bring home more keenly in some places just what being a library trustee means.

Reporting—A new note in the reports of library meetings was observed in the local press. This note gives the key, in a way, to the place of importance a library gathering occupies in the mind of the average person who makes assignment of reporters to "do" the news for the daily press.

A report from a Missouri newspaper is headed, "Librarians well-dressed bunch!" and then

The library convention is on in full force and the library people are quite humanly and charmingly interested in things and people. At the concert given for them last night by the University Band, they showed real appreciation and enthusiasm, even the women applauded recklessly, regardless of their nobby white kid gloves. They are a well-dressed bunch too—furs and kid boots are much in evidence on the women and the very newest styles in collars are being worn by the men, which items of course prove their eligibility—at least from the co-ed viewpoint.

Commenting on the recent meeting of librarians held at Richfield Springs, N. Y., a local paper said:

While of the more than 100 women present, a few wore short skirts, there were none with those extremely high slim heels on their shoes—most of them being remarkably broad and low. Hence the conclusion—the higher the brow the lower the heel.

Mr Randall Parrish was invited to address the Illinois library association. A newspaper of the place reported on it as follows:

Mr Parrish speaks beautifully, and is a nice looking fellow on the platform. He is just the right size, rugged, strong and alert, and not too big; he fits in easily anywhere. He dresses so prettily that one does not know how he is clad. He looks like a sophomore in a theological college, and talked to his audience last night as if it were his neighbor's hired girl, and he wanted to save her for a life of clean hand, clean head and clean heart. His philosophy was

so plain, homely and true that it was wonderfully beautiful.

One doesn't know whether to laugh or to sigh over the state of mind that produces such vaporings and the situation that tolerates them.

A unique report—The Seattle public library has taken the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary to issue a rather unusual kind of annual report. It is a departure from traditional form in that the report is designed to be read. Aimed at the public, at patrons and possible patrons of the library, little emphasis is placed upon the machinery of the institution, for the problem in this case is to explain as simply and non-technically as possible what the library is, what it is doing for the public in general, and for certain specified classes of readers.

Following a one-page summary review of the year 1915 is a sketch of library history from the foundation in 1890 down to date. Library organization and finance, income and expenditure, are treated in short sections with the help of diagrams. The general principles of book selection, buying, binding, and preparation for use are described, not for librarians, but for people who know next to nothing about these affairs. "How to borrow library books" comes next, with rough directions for finding things in the library. The remainder and greater part of the report is taken up with a description of library service under the following headings: To the general reader, to business men, to engineers, artists and architects, artisans, musicians, to good citizens, students and debaters, to club women, social workers, children, teachers, foreigners and prospective citizens, and to the blind. The final section

takes up library extension through branches, with the usual appendix consisting of tabulated statistics, etc.

The Seattle public library has experienced remarkable growth and transformation, as all things in Seattle have the habit of doing. To summarize this growth and to tell the people who own the library just what it is good for, to talk these things over in the simplest, most direct manner possible—that seems to be the purpose of this report.

Catalogitis

The Librarian in a recent issue of *The Transcript* quotes from the report of the Ryerson library, Grand Rapids, Mich., the story of the consumption of a line of bookcases by white ants and then adds:

We think the motives of these ants were misconstrued. You will have noticed that they attacked very few books. Also that they first appeared in the catalog room. Ants are notoriously intelligent creatures, and it is our belief that their real purpose was to eat up the card catalog. Unfortunately, their purpose was misunderstood, and so the little benefactors were destroyed before they could carry out their good intentions.

Anyhow, it is a new incident in library history. There is little or nothing on record about ants in libraries. Doubtless the makers of indexes are already at work, and when the animal cumulations appear, early in 1917, we shall read entries as follows:

Ants, white, in library, campaign against.

Formaldehyde, useless against ants.

Grand Rapids, ants in library.

White ants, see Ants, white.

All of which goes to show that *catalogitis negative* is quite as bad as the positive kind. Librarian has suffered from it for nearly 20 years and seems to suffer in the same degree as in his first attack.

A number of state library commissions are interested in sending books to the soldiers on the Mexican border. Iowa sent five boxes in August to Brownsville. An officer in an Oregon regiment said, in answer to an inquiry, that because of practice and moving about, the scheme was not a feasible one.

A Wisconsin Visitor in Minnesota

"Here is where libraries and schools have their proper recognition, financial and otherwise."

The "Here" was "up on the range" which means the mining towns on the Mesaba iron range in Northern Minnesota.

The Minnesota state library association was so fortunate as to receive an invitation from the city of Virginia, the metropolis of "the range," to hold its annual meeting there. And a splendid meeting it was.

In the first place, Virginia itself was a happy surprise. It didn't tally with one's preconceived opinion of a mining town, at all. It was a beautiful, well kept, progressive, busy city. Wide streets, with the best of paving, kept wonderfully clean, and lighted on either side with cluster lights. Concrete walks everywhere, splendid business blocks and public buildings, and oh, the flowers. Everyone loves flowers "on the range," so everyone has them. And such flowers—wide in variety and so brilliant in color. Sweet peas, salvias, hardy phlox, dahlias, etc., in park and private grounds. And what is true of Virginia is true of all the range towns.

Then, the fine meeting, held in the luxurious club room of the Virginia library. The program was so sensible and so helpful. Mr Raymond Walkley, assistant librarian of the Minneapolis public library, gave many plain, usable suggestions in his talk, "Library administration, Business methods, Budgets, Financial records." This was supplemented by R. C. Pickering, secretary of the Virginia library board, who showed his books. One of these was "Bills allowed," a book of brief forms to be filled in as required, and numbered to correspond with the voucher stub.

Miss Gratia Countryman, who always has her finger on the library pulse, and whose diagnoses are so trustworthy, sent a most inspiring paper entitled "Whence and whither: an appraisal." Miss Countryman regretted the tendency among so many librarians,

to rush madly into fields which are not legitimately theirs to invade. To over-emphasize the Kindergarten side, the Story hour, etc., to overdo Publicity, all to the detriment of the fundamental purpose of the library—which is to furnish good reading to all who want it. Books should come first, last and all time.

The book symposium on Thursday morning was unusual. Think of having books on chemistry and engineering, discussed, not by college professors, but by those on the firing line. By engineers and chemists who are actually using them and know them from the practical side. Such were the books discussed by Mr Arthur Anderson and Mr J. H. McInnis. Books of travel are the books Miss Elta Savage of the Duluth library likes. One could feel her personal enthusiasm for them in her reading of a paper on them. This paper was illustrated by an interesting collection of travel books. Miss Belle Owen of the St Paul library told of her experiences in the transformation of several fiction fiends into devoted readers, not only of war books but other serious lines, in "The use of war literature." Miss Owen mentioned many excellent titles, but it is more than likely that nearly everyone in her audience went home and read Andrews' "The three things." "The librarian's magazines" were discussed by Miss Jennie Lasby of Northfield. Miss Lasby felt that every librarian should read *The Nation*, *Survey* and *Independent*, to keep abreast of the times, while *Atlantic*, *Scribner* and *National Geographic* contribute to her recreation. When Miss Lasby mentioned that *The New Republic* was almost read to tatters every week in the Northfield library, a responsive chord was struck as many of her hearers could offer like testimony.

In a most clever paper, Miss Katherine Patten of the Minneapolis athenaeum, told of the fascinating books and magazines on building and interior decorating. Miss Patten declared that each of us has the building germ, more

or less developed, and her interest in books of this nature was so great that she had a carefully prepared list of books and magazines typewritten so that each member of the audience could have a copy.

In his address "The library and the immigrant," Mr John Foster Carr declared that libraries could do much toward helping the immigrant learn what is expected of him in his new country. How can he avoid breaking rules when he does not know what the rules are? Books on naturalization are well and good, but there should also be books on rules and customs and other pitfalls into which he is sure to fall.

The "range" librarians and trustees are royal entertainers.

Vitality is the word that characterizes the Minnesota association—the program was vital, the towns visited were full of vitality—the libraries are doing vital work. In short, the whole library situation in Minnesota is marked by the sensible, useful work being done. The Minnesota librarians are a virile lot.

A. M.

A Memorial Meeting

The New York library club, with participation of the New York public library and Library schools, the American library association and the New York library association, have called a meeting to honor the memory of Mary Wright Plummer, late principal of the New York library school, and president of the American library association, in the New York public library building, Fifth avenue, for Thursday, Nov. 16, 1916, at eight o'clock.

During the summer months, when the circulation somewhat ran down, the Public library of Rocky Ford, Colo., prepared an attractive poster, with the headline, "Just read," and with space below for nine titles. These were put in the store windows, changed weekly to other stores, in different parts of town, with the result that they have noticeably stimulated the demands for the books mentioned.

Library Meetings

Chicago—The season opened October 5 with a social meeting at the Ryerson library, Art institute. Miss Faith E. Smith, president, presided.

C. L. Hutchinson, president of the Art institute, gave a very interesting account of the history and ideals of the institute, showing by statistics how much its resources and cordial spirit of hospitality are appreciated by the people of Chicago. Miss S. Louise Mitchell, librarian of the Ryerson library, gave further information about the library and the exhibits of fine art books and of the circulating collection of pictures and slides which were afterwards examined by the members of the club.

D. ASHLEY HOOKER,
Secretary.

Iowa—Refreshing, inspiring, creative—the 1916 annual meeting of the Iowa library association at Colfax, October 11-13, was the splendid result of the President's (Miss Drake) ideal of library service. From a practical, from an inspirational standpoint, from editor, club woman, teacher, engineering, business and agricultural expert we heard of the public library's vast part and privilege in the enlarging life of our state.

Mr McVey in his talk on "Publicity" gave praise and blame to the library of today for its fulfillment or neglect of its ever increasing part as center of the town's civic, artistic and educational life. It is our privilege as well as duty to make known through the columns of the newspapers, through co-operation with merchants, schools, all alive interests of the town, the resources of the library. A round table discussion followed Mr McVey's paper, which brought out many interesting and successful methods of publicity which had been tried in the libraries represented by those present.

A delightful evening was spent Wednesday with Mr Rush and the "Illustrators of children's books," by the aid of lantern and slides he recalled to our minds the beloved books of our

childhood and those since published; reminding us that the crude and often times harmful illustrated newspaper supplement does not appeal to the child who has grown up with Kate Greenaway, Caldecott, Boutet de Monvel and all their fellow illustrators.

Thursday morning's session, given up to a book symposium, was most useful to all present. In this day of demand for the best books along all lines of endeavor, help and suggestions from experts are most welcome. Mr Smith of the Iowa State college, on engineering books; Mr Briscoe, University of Iowa, on business books; Mr Gibson, Iowa State college, on agriculture; Mrs Towner, Corning, on the Club woman's need, and Mrs Barclay, Boone, the Bible as literature, all gave us much of value to carry to our various communities.

In the address of the afternoon, "Library service," Mr Albert, ex-president of the International association of Rotary clubs, gave us a wonderful interpretation of our high calling as librarians. Similar to his own experience,—in being presented with a gold loving cup, his joy in the discovery that it was filled with gold coin, the added joy of planning to spend the contents and the sequel, that to this day it is unspent—is the position of the libraries of U. S. Our riches of position and privilege, the consequent difficulty in keeping a right perspective and spending ourselves for only the best. Given our well-equipped buildings, the most remarkable construction of the present civilization, we, as part of the educational system of America, are developing new functions. The libraries of the old world had as their object the preservation of books, but with the development of social consciousness in America, we have come to be the dispenser of books, our real problem is to find our greatest use. Belonging to a nation with a passion for education we have an ever widening field of endeavor, but surveying this vast field we must not lose heart for the quality of service rendered today in general is surpass-

ingly good. We can not know everything, but we can endeavor to know the beautiful and lovely and so make richer our own and other lives. In all these efforts we must not forget the foreigner in our midst nor the vast part we may have in making him an American citizen.

Mrs Meyer, Iowa City, and Mr Frederick of *The Midland*, Thursday evening, gave us still further the civic expert's and editor's view of the public library's place in the life of the community and of Iowa's place in the literature of today and the part we as librarians may play in helping her to stand still higher in the future.

Friday morning was devoted to a business meeting followed by Dr Shambaugh on the "Iowa Historical society;" Miss Sporleder, Iowa City, on the relations of school and library, the active part the teacher should take in this; Miss Armstrong, of Council Bluffs, provoked a lively discussion with her talk on "Time-savers," making one feel that given a bright and shining Joan of Arc library to try out all these time-savers, the rest of us would follow and by so doing gain the time for the larger library service toward which the entire convention pointed the way.

The convention adjourned, some going to Des Moines to visit the libraries there, others starting on the homeward journey, giving a last fond look at the wonderful autumn colors of the surrounding hillsides, breathing in to the last all possible of the pure air of Colfax that most delightful of meeting places, glorying in the work before us with a prayer that we be given strength to fulfill our task.

MIRIAM B. WHARTON, Secretary.

Minnesota—The annual meeting of the Minnesota library association was held at Virginia, Sept. 6-8. There was a registration of 69.

The first session began with an address by R. L. Walkley, of the Public library, Minneapolis, on "Business methods in the library." He showed

by analysis of the reports from 68 towns and cities in Minnesota, that the average per capita library expenditure is over 50c, while the 39 Carnegie spend only about 43c per capita, and average about 15% of the original cost of the building. Comparison with the expenditure of other libraries, shows that the Carnegie libraries are sticking too close to the 10% minimum, which amount is increasingly inadequate for proper support. He recommended the budget system as one aid in estimating expenditures. In Minnesota libraries, the average amount spent for books, periodicals and binding, is about 26% of all expenses; salaries, 44%; other expenses, 29%. (Mr Walkley's paper will be found on p. 401.)

"Whence and whither: an appraisal," by Miss Countryman, Minneapolis, was read in her absence. She spoke of the many innovations by which librarians are scattering their energies in order to be useful, and insisted that we follow some course of action which shall promote good reading, which is what we are organized for. She expressed the belief that libraries are competing too much with other agencies, instead of cooperating with them. This is especially true in school work and work with very little children. More energy should be put to the task of holding on to the child when he leaves school. In summing up she emphasized the spirit of helpfulness which makes librarians eager to render all possible service, and said that in spite of the side tracks libraries have been steadily building a broader path of their own.

In the report on Library training, it was stated that the University of Minnesota had inserted in its budget for 1917-18 a request for funds for starting a library school. The Minnesota summer library school has been affiliated with the College of education. Courses for teacher-librarians have been established at the University and at Carleton college, and a training class has been started in the Minneapolis public library.

A most delightful banquet closed the first day.

In the evening the Oliver Iron Mining Company gave a moving picture demonstration showing the work of iron mining, explaining the processes shown in the various pictures in a most interesting and non-technical way.

The second session opened with a book symposium where different ones treated of the following subjects: "Travel in the United States," "Books on chemistry," "Books relating to civil engineering," "Books on domestic architecture and interior decoration," "Use of war literature," "Library magazines," to which later Miss Baldwin added *Minnesota Municipalities* and "*The Minnesotan*."

On Thursday evening John Foster Carr, director of the Immigrant Publication Society of New York City, gave an address. He showed by figures the relatively high rank which Minnesota has taken in the education of her foreign-born and pointed out the difficulties which hinder the Americanization of the immigrant, many of them due to the fact that he lives in and sees the worst, not the best side of our civilization. To show him the best side, many of our institutions are too large and uninviting, and this is why the library, by means of individual work, has the chance to do more than any other institution or organization.

Mr Carr gave a most interesting exhibit of lantern slides showing the work of Americanization that is carried on in various places.

The session on Friday morning was devoted to business. The following officers were elected: President, Mabel Newhard, Virginia; first vice-president, A. D. Keator, Northfield; second vice-president, Ida May Ferguson, Minneapolis; secretary-treasurer, Belle M. Owens, St. Paul. These officers, with the retiring president, Miss Frances Earhart, form the executive board.

At the close of this session the association took a 70 mile automobile trip

around the Mesaba Range. Libraries were visited at Eveleth and Chisholm. Luncheon was served by the Library board of Hibbing. A visit was also made to the Public library of Mountain Iron.

Missouri—The seventeenth annual conference of the Missouri library association met at the State university at Columbia, October 11-13. The meeting was called to order by Dr Arthur E. Bostwick of St. Louis. After a short session the visitors were shown the new library buildings as well as the libraries of the other educational institutions on the campus.

The association was welcomed at the evening meeting by President Hill of the university and response was made by President Bostwick.

Dean Charter, of the School of education, gave the address of the evening on the "Outlook of education."

On Thursday morning, the discussion was "Books for rural Missouri." Miss Wales, secretary of the Library commission, told of the traveling library work. Dean Mumford of the College of agriculture, told of the work among the farmers of the state.

Miss Krug, St. Louis public library, described the inter-library loan and the other work of the city libraries with the country institutions and individuals, and Mr Cunningham told of his successful efforts at Rolla in making the library of the School of mines function also as a public library for the town.

Mr Purd B. Wright described the work of the county library system of California.

The afternoon session was devoted to the interests of the public library of Columbia now housed in the county courthouse and supported entirely by private gifts.

Mrs Emmons told of the steps taken in Mexico to secure the tax-supported library and its Carnegie building.

The afternoon was devoted to social entertainments for the visitors.

The final session on Friday morning was devoted to publicity. Miss Marjorie

Quigley, Divoll branch, St. Louis, emphasized the personal element and decried the "dodger system." Professor Powell of the School of journalism, told how to win the support of newspapers. Mr Diephuis, St. Louis public library, gave philosophic views on the subject.

The proposition relating to the county library law for Missouri caused considerable discussion, but the vote was carried overwhelmingly in favor of it. A bill prepared by a committee of the association will be introduced into the Missouri legislature at its coming session.

Resolutions expressing appreciation of the courtesy of the Columbia hosts were unanimously adopted.

A resolution expressing the personal and professional loss felt by the association in the death of Miss Florence Whittier, was fittingly offered and adopted.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Ward H. Edwards, William Jewell college, Liberty, Mo.; first vice president, Mary E. Baker, University of Missouri library, Columbia, Mo.; second vice president, Katherine Jarvis, Park college, Parkville, Mo.; secretary, Harold L. Wheeler, School of mines and metallurgy, Rolla, Mo.; treasurer, Margery Quigley, St. Louis public library, St. Louis, Mo.

JESSE CUNNINGHAM,
Secretary.

Nebraska—The twenty-second annual meeting of the Nebraska library association, held in Lincoln, October 11-13, proved to be one of the most successful ever held. Following as it did the library institute held under the auspices of the Library commission the first three days of the week, many of the librarians of the new and smaller libraries were in attendance. Fine weather, a varied program and the good attendance combined to make a splendid meeting.

Mr. Malcolm G. Wyer, the president, opened the meeting with a few words of welcome and a short history of library work. He also urged the recommendation of the co-ordination and unification of the following four libraries, University, State historical society, Legislative

reference bureau and Library commission. A resolution to that effect was moved and adopted. Prof F. A. Stuff of the university gave an inspiring paper on the "Cultural aspect of creative fiction." Miss Nellie Williams told of the institutional libraries of the state. During the roll call the reports of the different librarians showed that much had been accomplished during the year.

On Thursday morning, Miss Mary McQuaid of Fairbury gave an informal talk on "Aids in book selection for the small library"; Miss Frances Morton of Beatrice, on "Magazine selection," and Miss Josephine Lammer of Lincoln on "Government documents for the small library." Prof H. W. Caldwell of the university, gave a splendid paper on "American history books for the public library" with a list for first, second and third purchase. The association voted to have this list published. Thursday afternoon was given over to the problem of the rural school libraries and rural libraries and discussions were led by Miss Anna Jennings, Mr A. V. Teed, Prof A. E. Anderson of the College of agriculture, and Miss Charlotte Templeton.

"Interesting the club women in libraries," by Mrs D. E. Wherry, chairman of the Library committee of the Woman's federation, and "Work with the children" by Miss Helen Lobdell of Norfolk was the work taken up at the last meeting. Mr Charles Compton of Seattle and a member of National publicity committee told us of the publicity work of the libraries of the northwest, and of the aims of the national committee. At the business meeting in answer to the questionnaire sent out by Mr Utley in regard to the next meeting place of the A. L. A., Colorado received the majority vote although not listed. Invitations for the 1917 state meeting were received from Nebraska City, Kearney State normal school, Plattsmouth, Hastings and Omaha. Miss Edith Tobitt of Omaha in her usual efficient manner conducted the round-table and printed lists of questions proved a help in bringing out many things for discussion.

On Wednesday evening, Dr G. E. Condra of the university with his motion pictures took us a most interesting "Trip through Nebraska" and showed us many an unknown corner of our own state. The last evening, the Lincoln library club was host to the association at the home of Mrs F. M. Spalding, where the University players under the direction of Miss Alice Howell presented the "Man who married a dumb wife" by Anatole France, with the "Flower of Yeddo" as a curtain raiser.

The following officers were re-elected for the year 1916-1917: Mr Malcolm G. Wyer, Lincoln, president; Miss Annie C. Kramph, North Platte, first vice-president; Miss Kate Swartzlander, Omaha, second vice-president; Miss Mary K. Ray, Lincoln, secretary-treasurer.

New York—New York library week was spent, Sept. 11-16, at Richfield Springs, N. Y.

In an address of welcome from John D. Cary, the history of the Public library of the place was told, tracing its growth from a neglected, unappreciated collection of books in one room to its present effective, well-situated condition, largely through the efforts of its librarian, Miss Winne.

Mr E. F. Stevens of Pratt institute responded to the address of welcome.

Mrs C. R. Robinson spoke of what the library means to a small community, in describing the Public library of Jordanville. The library furnishes a community center for the entire village. All sorts of meetings are held in the library, which have tended to do away with local jealousy and develop cordial community feeling.

The president's address on "A rising or a setting sun," closed the session, which was followed by a reception.

Tuesday morning was devoted to the business of the association. The association appropriated \$200 for library institutes during the coming year, in addition to the unexpended \$70 remaining from the appropriation of the past year. Mr Bowker offered an amendment that the sum be increased

by \$25 to be spent in printing and distributing material relating to the institutes. At the end of the business session, the association listened to an address by F. K. Mathiews, of the Boy scouts of America, concerning "Book selection for boys."

Rev J. B. Moldenhawer of Albany gave a talk on Andersen's "Fairy tales." Mr Moldenhawer, who is himself a Dane, feels that most of the English translations of Andersen's tales have lost the spirit of the original. Mr Moldenhawer read most delightfully three of the stories which he has himself translated.

The subject of the Tuesday evening session was "Book selection."

Miss Eastwood, in her talk on "The how and why of the *Best Books List*," brought out the fact that this list is intended especially for the small libraries of New York state, that the books to be best for this purpose must be good, safe, wholesome, interesting or useful, of local value and not too expensive.

Miss Margaret Jackson, editor *Book Review Digest*, made a plea for librarians to select books which give real information, especially on social topics, and so to call attention to them that they will be widely read; to make practical use of the library readers who know their subjects and are willing to give advice in selecting books; to supply books in which people are interested, as well as those in which they should be. Librarians should better learn to discriminate between reviews which are of real value, and those which uphold the policy of a periodical, or are written by paid reviewers. A community must be supplied not only with the books which deal with the industries and interests of the community, but also with books for recreational and cultural reading, these last to be selected for their appeal to the imagination, and to be read purely for pleasure.

The discussion was interesting, as made up by Mr Seward, Binghamton, Miss Jacqueline Overton, Mr Paine,

Mr Bostwick and Mr Mathiews. The session closed with another Andersen fairy tale by Mr Moldenhawer.

A discussion of the merit system in library service opened the session on Wednesday morning. No conclusion was reached, but a committee was authorized to confer with the State board of education, and to make a report at the next meeting.

An address by the Rev J. B. Moldenhawer on "Choosing books," stated that the problem required for its solution, a combination of the New England conscience and the disposition of Mr Mark Tapley. To prescribe right books is not enough, a desire for the books that will do the most good must be created.

An address by Prof E. W. Smith, Colgate university, entitled "The keeper of the gate," emphasized that people should not only be kept from the path of intellectual sin, but should be steered into the paths of intellectual righteousness. This requires not merely a warden of books, but an individual with a nobly conceived mission of making books of the largest use to all who come. With the working and playing needs of the community both supplied, there will be little question of better reading or worse, for it will all be of the best.

Wednesday afternoon was given up to the discussion of the library and the immigrant. This was opened by George E. Dunham of the *Utica Press*. Mr Dunham has for several years conducted classes for men about to take the last examination for citizenship papers. The men are of all nationalities, mostly middle-aged, and are honest and responsible. The classes cover the subjects of American civil government and elementary American history. Librarians can give valuable aid to this kind of work in helping in the "after care" of new citizens, who are often anxious to read and study, if helped a little.

John Foster Carr presented the subject, "The nation's need and the library's opportunity." Mr Carr said the

greatest problem of "preparedness" at present is the problem of the immigrant, who forms the industrial backbone of the country, and should be made without delay, fit for good American citizens. New York's share of this problem is greater than that of any other state. The library has the greatest power to interpret the spirit of American democracy to the foreign-born.

The addresses were followed by accounts of personal experiences by four librarians doing work with foreigners under varying conditions. The enforced social contacts which have come about as a result of legitimate library work, not settlement work, call for simple friendliness, rather than the missionary spirit, in the librarian's attitude toward foreigners. Gardens on the library grounds and clubs for boys and girls of different ages, have been factors in bringing the library into close touch with the people they wanted to reach. The problem of the foreigner in the small town is sometimes even more difficult to deal with than in a city. The key to the situation in all of these is the friendly spirit of the librarian.

Thursday morning was given up to round table conferences on various subjects: "Book selection and reference work," Miss Eastwood, leader; "Work with men," Mr Seward; "Work with foreigners," Mr Carr; "College libraries," Mr Ibbotson; "Cataloging," Miss Hitchler; "Children's work," Miss Overton and Miss DuBois; "Book order," Miss Smith.

Thursday evening was devoted to discussion of libraries in charitable, reformatory and penal institutions. A report on the work in New York was read by Mr Wyer. "Jail and prison libraries" were discussed by Miss Downey, Miss Kelso and Mr Forbes.

Mr Austen, librarian of Cornell university, presented the theme, "Our great need." The development of library economy during the past years has made accessible the vast stores of knowledge which were difficult to use

because of the obscure and imperfect references which led to them. It is for librarians now to teach their readers to know and use bibliographic tools and short cuts.

Mr Austen was followed by Miss Mudge of Columbia university on "How the public library can help toward the best use of the college library."

At the close of the program Mr Carr showed a number of interesting slides of pictures of work with immigrants, mostly of the work done by public libraries in various cities.

Friday morning brought about 50 teachers, including many principals, from the schools of Utica. As the day was wet, the association was obliged with regret to abandon the trip to Ilion to visit Library Bureau and the Remington Typewriter works, and an impromptu programless meeting was arranged.

This was opened by John Foster Carr, who spoke of the need of preparation of books for the use of the immigrant. Stress was laid upon the inadequate and uninteresting instruction of the night schools. He said that the adults found little help in the formal method of instruction and the childish primers put in their hands, and protested against the indiscriminate classing of foreigners without regard to their mental equipment, and showed that the library is meeting their needs better than the night schools.

At the afternoon meeting, "School libraries" was the topic, and the teachers were shown the great position the library held toward each department of school work.

Mr Congdon wrote of real types of school libraries as he had found them in his position as inspector of schools. The kind of books, the ability of those who select such books, surroundings, ability of the children to use the books, knowledge of the books by teachers, manner in which books were cared for, all left much to be desired, when the importance of this part of the work was considered.

A paper by Miss Zachert, of the Rochester public library, advocated trained librarians to care for school library work. She urged libraries in the grades supplied from the public library. Conditions which showed the ignorance of the teachers were mentioned. The greater number of books drawn from the shelves were taken to the sections of the city where the foreigners lived.

Miss Sophie C. Becker, supervisor of primary grades of the Buffalo public schools, spoke from the teacher's standpoint. She told of the books selected for libraries as being examples of the literary taste of the principal who chose them, but entirely unfitted to the children's understanding. She asked for more suitable books for the use of teachers and children, books for use in night schools. She pictured a glorious future when the child would like to learn to read, because of his enjoyment in his books. Unusually good results have been secured in the schools in White Plains, through the willing coöperation of the high school library, the public library, and the library of the H. W. Wilson Company.

President A. R. Brubacher, New York State college for teachers, warned against the present day tendency to let the story of the newspaper and the moving pictures furnish all entertainment.

Resolutions calling for a competent trained school library organizer, and lessons on the use of the library to be included in the new English syllabus for secondary schools in New York, and the inclusion of lessons in the use of the library, in the course of study in the normal and training schools, were adopted.

Friday evening was given to the discussion of the library and the state.

J. I. Wyer, of the State library, urged that the librarians should not confine themselves too closely to the reading of books, but keep from being narrow by mingling with people and getting close to nature.

Saturday morning was given up to

the business of the association. Resolutions of appreciation were adopted. Officers were elected as follows: President, Edward F. Stevens, Pratt Institute library, Brooklyn; vice-president, Adeline B. Zachert, Public library, Rochester; secretary, E. Louise Lauder, Public library, Binghamton; treasurer, Paul N. Rice, New York public library.

The register showed 271 persons attended the meeting. The Board of Trade of Richfield Springs treated the members to a motor trip to Coopers-town on Tuesday afternoon. The pleasure of the expedition was greatly increased by a steamer ride on the lake, as a treat from Mr T. R. Proctor. A play, "Coöperation," by Helen Rex Keller, was borrowed, together with its leading lady, from the New York library club. The atmosphere of the play, with its references to well-known librarians and their opinions, was heartily enjoyed by the audience. The social activities of the week were most enjoyable.

Pennsylvania—The sixteenth annual meeting of the Keystone State library association was held October 12-14, 1916, at Galen Hall, Wernersville, a delightful resort hotel in the Pennsylvania mountains. Inviting paths through the woods and over the mountain, a splendid stretch of sward for the golf lovers, porches commanding views of the distant mountains, all added to the joys of freedom from regular routine.

Thursday evening O. R. Howard Thomson, librarian of the James V. Brown library at Williamsport, presented his president's address, "Why not face the facts?" The facts which he admonished us to face are those of inadequate financial support, and ways to rectify these. "Comparisons are frequently in bad taste but I cannot resist the remark that the profits of the Detroit company that puts out the 'humble little Ford' were four times as large as the receipts of all the public libraries in the U. S." (See p. 397.)

After the appointment of committees,

Mr E. C. Mumford of the Penn Publishing Company spoke on "The small town book store." Mr Mumford reminded us that 70% of the population of our country lives in cities of 25,000 and less, and then told us that there were few *real* book stores in towns of less than 25,000. Thus the large proportion of our people have no access to book stores worthy of the name. He then pointed out a few ways in which a library can coöperate with book stores.

Friday morning Anna A. MacDonald, consulting librarian of the Pennsylvania free library commission conducted a round table on "Things that help and hinder." Flora B. Roberts, librarian, Pottsville public library, first took up "The library as a civic institution." Her first point was the necessity of making the library of service to all people of all classes and all interests, that the institution may be recognized as a civic institution in its scope; the next point was the necessity of adequate support from civic or tax funds. Discussion concerning the need of added library legislation in Pennsylvania followed. "The indifference of the public" was presented by Henry F. Marx, librarian of the Easton public library. Mr Marx, in a contrary mood, insisted that the indifference of the public had been a blessing in disguise to librarians; that it had stimulated us to great activities in the past, and still demands more of us in the future. His constructive suggestions were most inspiring, and we all felt our enthusiasm mount. The last phrase, "Points of contact with the foreigner" was taken up by Mrs Adelaide B. Maltby, librarian Tompkins Square branch, New York public library. Mrs Maltby set forth as the first essential our own attitude toward the foreigner; we must be ardent to understand the alien. Foreign assistants in libraries have proved successful points of contact, after the books have been provided.

A second round table on "story telling" was conducted by Miss Edna Whiteman of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. Illustrative stories were told by Miss Julia Williamson and Miss Bladerson of

the Free library of Philadelphia, Margaret Carnegie, Irma Diescher and Miss Whiteman of Pittsburgh.

Friday afternoon was given over to the discussion of the problems of school and college libraries. Miss Mary E. Hall, librarian of the Girl's high school, Brooklyn, reviewed the "School library situation," showing the situation to be most encouraging. Effie L. Power, of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, spoke on "Coöperation between the public library and the public school." In this she outlined the plan now followed in Pittsburgh with very satisfying results. "Reading of students," was the last part of this program. Miss Sarah C. Evans, of the West Chester high school library, spoke for the high school students; her talk was full of sympathy and understanding, and clearly showed that the personal equation was a large factor in the handling of this problem in her library. One suggestion she gave was that students enjoy poetry if they *hear* it, and she proposed reading hours or clubs. Ella C. Ritchie of the Bloomsburg state normal school library, spoke for the normal school student. She proposed to leave to the course of study the reading of general and professional literature; the library must lead to current events and children's literature. Helen Sharpless, librarian of Haverford college, in speaking for the college student, sounded a note of warning: "Some one has said that a boy's mind is like a pop-gun—if anything is pushed in at one end, something goes out at the other. Is there a chance that the reading the librarian may urge may force out something the professor has just put in?"

Following these papers, the section was formally organized, with Miss Clara E. Howard, librarian of the Schenley high school, Pittsburgh, as chairman.

Friday evening and Saturday morning was the time for our literary inspiration. In the evening John Cowper Powys, extension lecturer from Oxford and Cambridge universities,

lectured on "Shakespeare the poet." Mr Powys' view of the poet was unique in many ways and stimulating in all. The morning lecture on Masfield and Rupert Brooke stirred all the listeners to a deeper appreciation of poetry as an interpreter of the life of facts, and sent us all out with a higher ideal of our opportunities as librarians in the circulation of Literature (the capital letter is no accident).

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs Jean M. Hard, librarian, Public library, Erie; vice-president, Miss Florence Hulings, librarian, Public library, Lock Haven; secretary, Miss Flora B. Roberts, librarian, Public library, Pottsville; treasurer, Miss Anna A. MacDonald, consulting librarian, Pennsylvania free library commission, Harrisburg.

FLORA B. ROBERTS,
Secretary.

Texas—The Texas library association held its annual meeting in Galveston, October 11-13. Forty-one Texas librarians were present at the meeting representing 21 libraries. Each one present pronounced the meeting the most successful in the history of the association.

A novel feature of the meeting was entitled "Library's Who's Who," in which each librarian present introduced himself to the convention, arising and announcing his name, his library and the reason why he was in library work. A variety of reasons were given. Some librarians were school teachers and club women who had "reformed," others who entered while they were deciding what to do for a living and others who began library work earning expense money while in college libraries as student apprentices or assistants.

In her presidential address Miss Elizabeth H. West, of San Antonio, presented a summary of the library activities in Texas during the past year and pointed to the work which the association might take up immediately for the promotion of libraries.

The history of the bequest of Henry Rosenberg was told in a brief way by Mr Frank C. Patten of the Rosenberg library of Galveston. It was founded out of the residue of the Rosenberg estate, which amounted in 1893 to \$400,000, and which has a present value of \$890,000, out of which the library receives an income from \$600,000.

The prospects for a library school soon were very bright, according to Mr J. E. Goodwin, librarian of the State university, Austin. A letter to President Vinson of the State university, stating the benefits of a library school and demanding its early establishment at the university brought forth the announcement from Dr Vinson that the school will soon be established if his recommendation is carried out.

Mis Mary C. Gardner, of the Rosenberg library, presented in an able way a paper on "Training of apprentices." She showed that the Rosenberg library has a very rigid test for those who hope to enter the library profession through the Rosenberg library as apprentices. It was also shown that the short term of apprenticeship, too short for adequate training, was somewhat overcome by getting the right persons upon entrance.

The Carnegie library situation in Texas occupied one full session of the meeting. While a number of libraries are delinquent in meeting the terms of the Carnegie corporation, there is an outlook for a successful solution of the problem through the efforts of Mr Klaerner, state librarian. His work in this connection was endorsed by the association and it was recommended that he continue his correspondence which promises the best results.

Miss Lillian Gunter of Gainesville presented the report of the committee on legislation. The work of this committee has been mainly confined to drafting an adequate county library law for Texas, and the report showed the result of thorough investigation. The county library bill has been endorsed by the women's clubs, rural organizations, labor organizations, etc., and the

committee's efforts will be directed toward the passage of a good law.

The principal address to the association was made by Mr Carl H. Milam, director of the Public library of Birmingham, Ala. "The library and the community" was his topic, in which he emphasized the need of reaching the business and the other classes of people who were not making full use of the library. While his address was mainly directed to the library workers, it was much appreciated by library users, some of whom stated that the speech, while short, was crowded with information and sound judgment. Mr Milam also made short talks to the Rotary clubs of Galveston and Houston at their luncheons, in which he showed the value of the library for the business men. He also addressed a meeting of Austin citizens in the interest of a public library for that city before going to the meeting of the association. A library for Austin may come through the temporary organization formed at this meeting.

The resolutions committee recommended: First, the establishment of a library school at the state university, a library organizer for the state of Texas, organized effort for a southern or southwestern meeting of the A. L. A., and finally the collection of additional statistics and data regarding Carnegie libraries in Texas. The final session was devoted to the problems of small libraries in which a number of papers were presented.

The following officers were elected: John E. Goodwin, librarian of the University of Texas, Austin, president; Miss Rumana McManis, librarian, Public library, Tyler, and Willard P. Lewis, librarian, Baylor university, Waco, vice-presidents; Jos. F. Marron, Legislative reference librarian, State library, secretary; Miss Pauline McCauley, librarian Waco public library, treasurer. Houston was selected as the meeting place for next year.

The hospitality of the trustees, the librarian and staff of the Rosenberg library of Galveston, was unlimited.

Visiting librarians were met at the train with automobiles and taken to the hotels and afterwards for an auto trip about the city. The trustees of the Rosenberg library entertained the visitors with a sea-food luncheon at one of the oyster resorts. The Galveston commercial association entertained the librarians with a launch ride along the water front and out into the gulf, which was very much enjoyed by everybody.

J. F. MARRON, Sec'y.

Wisconsin—The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Wisconsin library association was held in Milwaukee, October 12-13, 1916, the attendance being larger than at any previous gathering. The meeting was opened on Thursday morning by an address of welcome by the president, Miss Delia Ovitz, of the Milwaukee normal school.

Mrs A. C. Neville of Green Bay conducted the round table for trustees and librarians, the first speaker being Mr McLenegan of the Milwaukee public library. He spoke of "The librarian, his work in coöperation with the library board," and stated that unless there was active coöperation, disaster would surely follow. He referred to the library as a continuation school for the public and of the wonderful opportunities offered to all classes of people. He said that the man who does not read is as bad as the man who can not read.

Miss Deborah Martin of Green Bay told of the indifferent trustee who does not attend the meetings but yet accepts the appointment. She suggested that there be some form of legislation to supervise libraries. This led to a discussion by Hon W. H. Hatton of New London, who emphasized the responsibilities of the librarian.

That the trustees should help in the selection of books for the library was the opinion of Mr Emil Baensch, trustee of the Manitowoc library in a paper read by Miss Pond, librarian, and A. R. Jenecky, trustee of the Racine public library, spoke of "How to secure greater appropriations from the council." One of the first things is to

obtain the confidence of the council and then make known your wants.

Hon J. A. Hazelwood, trustee of Jefferson library, declared himself in favor of civil service appointments for positions in libraries. He stated two reasons for the employment of the merit system in the selection of librarians. First and foremost, larger efficiency in the library through a good librarian who must be an organizer, a diplomat and a tireless worker along social as well as library lines.

Second reason, is to furnish protection to those in library work. He said no forceful arguments can be advanced against the policy of employing the merit principle in all lines of public service.

"Library movement in Wisconsin," was outlined by Mr M. S. Dudgeon of the Wisconsin library commission. A map was displayed indicating the libraries throughout the state. Twenty years ago there were but 50 libraries, now there are 184. The object of the Commission is not only to organize libraries but to increase the efficiency of those already organized.

The Thursday afternoon session was conducted entirely by speakers outside the library profession and was very interesting as well as inspiring. President C. G. Pearse of the State normal school, Milwaukee, presented an interesting address on "The library's opportunity as seen by the educator." He spoke of the duty of the librarian to entice people to the library and also of the value in training children in the use of the library.

The next speaker, Mrs Victor Berger of the Milwaukee school board, read a paper on the "Library's opportunity to serve the working class." She gave the origin of public libraries from the time they were written on clay bricks in Assyria, on leaves of papyrus in Egypt up to the present time. She said until recently public libraries only appealed to the cultured class, but at present the libraries have been made real democratic institutions. She spoke of the great problem today in

trying to get the young people, as well as old people, to make use of the library, and said that books should be selected to interest all classes of people. She said also, "When work and economic conditions are such that all men will have more leisure and brain not too tired and strained by the grind of the day's work, then the librarian need not despair, as to how to serve the working class. The working class then will demand service and the library will most willingly and cheerfully serve."

"The library's opportunity as seen by the business man," was discussed by W. D. Connor of Marshfield. He made a strong plea for bettering the conditions among all classes of people.

Miss Lutie Stearns of Milwaukee spoke on the "Library's opportunity from the standpoint of public leisure," stating that labor conditions must be improved before the people be given leisure to read. She also suggested that libraries be made social centers with possibly moving pictures, or any other form of entertainment which would bring the people to the library.

The "Relationship between the library and book store," was the address of F. G. Melcher of Indianapolis. He gave his experience as a book dealer, and spoke of how a book dealer could bring good books before the public as well as the librarian, and how the two should coöperate to gain the best results.

Thursday evening a delightful informal reception and banquet was held at the Hotel Wisconsin. Mr Melcher read a number of selections from the modern poets during the social hour. Miss Stearns acted as toastmistress at the banquet and after an address of welcome gave an interesting history of the library movement in Wisconsin. Reminiscences were given by the following: Mrs C. S. Morris, Berlin; Mrs A. G. Neville, Green Bay; Miss Mary E. Hazeltine, Madison; Dean E. A. Birge, Madison; Hon W. H. Hatton, New London; and Mr M. S. Dudgeon, Madison. There were 150 in attendance.

Friday morning, a round table for librarians and colleges was conducted by O. S. Rice of Madison. He emphasized the importance of libraries in schools. Miss Mary E. Hazeltine of the Wisconsin library school gave an outline of a new course for high-school teacher-librarians in the University of Wisconsin. Miss Josephine Hargrave of Ripon college told of how she as librarian carried on the library work with the assistance of students. Miss Anne Boyd of the State normal school, Whitewater, told of the widespread movement in education to teach children in the grades and even students in normal schools how to study and also how to use the libraries. The position of the high-school teacher-librarian demands something more than mere librarianship or pedagogic skill. She should have a knowledge of the teachers' problems as well as those of the librarian. She should have had teaching experience and should do some teaching in connection with her work as teacher-librarian, so as to keep the point of view of the teacher. She stated that it would be better to be short in the technical side than not to be able to meet the more vital problems, from the educator's view. The teacher-librarian should be inspirational as well as a practical guide to recreational reading of the student and to the vocational pursuits. Many librarians took part in this discussion, expressing the opinion that the librarian had all she could do in undertaking the duties of librarian without trying to fill the position of teacher as well as librarian. Miss Stearns suggested that the Board of Education pay for a teacher-librarian as well as special teachers in drawing, music, manual training, etc.

After a short business session, Mrs Harriet Price Sawyer of St. Louis conducted the round table on publicity. Short talks on the importance of advertising the library were given by Miss Ada McCarthy, Madison; Miss Mildred Coon, Sheboygan; Miss Bertha Marx, Sheboygan, and Mr E. M. Jenison, Fond du Lac.

The librarians through the courtesy of the Milwaukee public library, enjoyed an automobile trip around Milwaukee.

Resolutions expressing grateful appreciation of the work of the officers, speakers, the hosts, and of the boards who send their librarians were adopted.

A memorial was adopted by the association, placing on its lasting records its tribute to the memory of Miss Plummer as a woman of the very highest ideals and a source of unending inspiration to all.

The officers for the ensuing year are: President, Mrs. A. C. Neville, Green Bay; vice-president, Miss Kate Potter, Baraboo; secretary, Miss Ada McCarthy, Madison; treasurer, Miss Callie Wieder, Fond du Lac.

CORA M. FRANTZ,
Sec'y.

Wyoming—The state library association held a meeting in Sheridan, Wyo., Oct. 3, with between 50 and 60 in attendance. Miss Frances Davis, state librarian of Wyoming, presided.

An interesting address was given by Dr Grace Hebard, librarian of the university at Laramie, on "Rare books." This was illustrated by several interesting items. One was a complete Bible, one and a half inches square, printed in type so small as to require a glass to read it. An illustrated edition of Dickens' "Christmas carol" in the same size as the Bible and a small tablet from Babylon, written in hieroglyphics, were also interesting. Dr Hebard emphasized the value of traveling libraries, and explained the provisions of the law relating to them.

Miss Davis, the state librarian, urged the librarians to take advantage of the splendid county library law which is in force in Wyoming, which she said was the envy of many states. She also urged a greater publicity through the newspapers, that the people who support the library may become interested in the library, and be of service to the library, as well as receive service from the library. There are 14 county libraries and seven counties without

them. Every county seat in the state is entitled to a county library. A statewide service, and a single agency for all library activities, were advocated by the speaker, in the statement, "it is a safe and sound proposition that around the state library should be centered all library work done in the state's name."

Miss Maud A. Cook, children's librarian of the Carnegie library at Laramie, discussed some of the problems of starting a children's room. She emphasized the need of good books, and a knowledge of them as well as an understanding of children on the part of the librarian.

The Carnegie library of Sheridan, under the direction of Miss Louise Portz, librarian, entertained the visiting librarians at an informal reception in the evening.

Coming Meetings

The Montana state library association will meet at Missoula, Nov. 27-29.

Indiana library association and the Trustees association will hold a joint meeting in Indianapolis, Nov. 8-9.

Pacific Northwest

The convention of the Pacific-Northwest library association held at Everett, Wash., on September 5 and 6, was a success. There was good attendance, about 100, friendly spirit, good papers, free discussion.

Miss Swezey's paper was based on the A. L. A. schedule and was followed by a discussion of the value of the ordinary library report and library statistics as usually given to the public, which didn't leave a unanimous belief in their value.

Mr Gowen's address, eloquent, full of reference and quotation, dealt with the duty of a librarian to cultivate knowledge, taste and sympathy that he (or she) might worthily serve his (or her) public.

Mrs Reed's paper, based on her survey made at the request of the government of the State of Washington, described the various institutions, charitable and penal, of the state, their object, the characteristics of the inmates

and the qualities necessary for a librarian who would do the best sort of work for these inmates.

The Traveling exhibits committee showed a collection of over 200 pictures such as the State library of Washington lends to libraries.

The Publicity committee had an exhibit of library advertising matter and explained its work in trying to bring about concerted action by the libraries of the U. S. for co-operative advertising.

The addresses on the training class of the Portland library and the library school of the University of Washington explained the ideals, described the courses, and asked for the sympathetic co-operation of the librarians.

Mr Kaiser enumerated the various committees for the Washington State library board's survey and described their work.

Bishop Keator quoted the library law of Washington regarding the authority of library boards to administer the library affairs without outside interference.

Miss Kostomlatsky's paper was most suggestive and interesting. She described the aims and ideals of the writers of free verse, quoting at length from their poems.

The Everett library board entertained the delegates by a boat-ride and lunch on Puget Sound. The Seattle library board entertained a number of librarians who stayed over for a day's visit to that city by a lunch and a visit to several of the library branches.

The new president of the P. N. L. A. is Miss Cornelia Marvin, State librarian of Oregon.

A Great Gift

A library that is of special interest is that which was given by Sarah Shedd to Washington, N. H. It was founded many years before the era of Carnegies by a humble mill girl who was all her life a toiler, and upon her death in 1867, bequeathed her savings of \$2,500 to found a library in her native town. She was an operative of Lowell when the mill girls were the bright intelligent

daughters of New England, but was able to enjoy not only comparative independence, but to gratify to some extent her taste for reading.

While the great gifts made from our great wealth are not to be despised, yet such rarely carry with them personal interest which is no mean thing in the sum total of giving.

Not what we give but what we share,
For the gift without the giver is bare.

Interesting Things in Print

The City library, Springfield, Mass., has issued a classified list of "Some books in large print."

An important volume from the early Bologna press of which only a few copies are known, has been given to the University of Illinois library by President E. J. James. It is a copy of Aristotle's "Ethics," translated by Aratino and printed by Rugerius between 1474-76.

The April number of *Texas Libraries*, the bulletin of the Texas library historical commission is crammed full of suggestions and information for the libraries of the state. "Greater library development in Texas" is the slogan.

The Department of commerce, Washington, has issued a report covering the obscure and complicated subject of Tariff system in South America. It has been called one of the most important attempts made to promote a better understanding with South American countries.

An interesting handbook of the Cincinnati public library, illustrated by interior views, as well as pictures of the exterior of the main library and of a number of the branches, has been issued. It was given as a souvenir to the members of the Ohio library association which recently met in that city.

The Applied Science department of Pratt Institute free library has issued a selected list of technical books for 1915. The list is arranged alphabetically under subjects, with an author and title index. There is also an index to the 62 subject headings. Mr Donald Hendry, the librarian of the Applied Science de-

partment, compiled the list, basing his choice of material on the demands made on his library.

An organization in Chicago, under the title, "The Brothers of the Book," has for several years been engaged in sending out in book form contributions by the members of the organization, in a form intended to express their high appreciation of the subject, not only by its treatment, but by a high ideal of the best that can be done in book making. A recent note reads, "Our next publication, 'Walt Whitman: yesterday and today,' by Henry Eduard Legler, will be adjudged the most important volume thus far issued under the imprint of the Brothers of the Book."

In a small town in this state the writer was told by at least ten men, all residents, that they did not know where the library was located, although it was within one hundred yards of where they stood. Is it any wonder that the library workers at the same time were complaining of the lack of interest on the part of the public? Could this happen in your town?

Does every man, woman and child in your town know there is a library? Where it is located? What it contains? How it may be used? Who manages it? How it is supported? How much it costs? What it would do for the community if adequately supported?

It is for the purpose of answering these questions that it is proposed to observe the first week in December as "Library Week." Begin now to make plans for its celebration. Plan something different for each day. Hold the library before the people for these seven days in such a way that they will never forget it.—*Pennsylvania Library Notes.*

A 400-page volume, illustrated, showing "Holland's influence on English language and literature," by T. de Vries, J. D. has been issued.

Professor de Vries was for two years lecturer on Dutch history, art and literature at the University of Chicago. He

is favorably known throughout the Netherlands for his books on political, legislative, historical and literary societies.

"Portraits of the 'Seventies'" by the Right Hon G. W. E. Russell is an endeavor to continue the line taken by Mr Justin McCarthy in his "Portraits of the 'Sixties.'" Mr Russell is the younger son of Lord Charles Russell and a nephew of Earl Russell (Lord John). Mr Gladstone, Lord Beaconsfield, Lord Acton, Mr Bright, Dr Liddin, Lord and Lady Salisbury, Archbishop Tait, Lord Randolph Churchill, Lord and Lady Mount Temple, the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, Lord and Lady Spencer, Archbishop Magee, Mr Chamberlain, Mr Parnell, Mr Bradlaugh are among the many of whom Mr Russell gives charming "appreciations" in his admirable pages.

An Appeal for Albania

A very urgent appeal has been received from *The Christian Work*, of New York, addressed to the public libraries of the country, on behalf of Albania, where the women and children are said to be dying of starvation, without help from anybody.

Every small nation in Europe has been cared for more or less by somebody in its material needs.

"Starving Albania, without even one newspaper of its own to make public its need, is dying in silence, its tragedy passed by unheeded. Over 200,000 women and children have already died from the lack of something to eat."

"A number of distinguished gentlemen in New York—mostly clergymen and editors of newspapers will cooperate in an appeal for a relief cargo for the ship. The treasurer selected to receive contributions is the Rev Frederick Lynch, D.D., editor of *The Christian Work* and secretary of the Carnegie Church Peace Union. Contributions in any amount—from the price of a loaf of bread upward—may be sent to the Balkan Relief Fund, 70 Fifth avenue, New York city."

Department of School Libraries

Library section of the New York State teachers' association

Because of the growing demand for better organized school libraries and the constantly increasing number of calls for assistance in organizing these libraries, it has been thought advisable to emphasize library discussion at the various section meetings of the New York State teachers' association. The use of the library by various departments will be a topic of discussion in eight or more section meetings and probably in one general session.

Program

Normal and training school Tuesday 2 p. m.
Re-organization of the Normal School curriculum. James F. Hoscic, secretary, National council of teachers of English.
Elementary school principals and teachers Tuesday 11:45 a. m.

The library in the school. James F. Hoscic, English and History. Joint session

Tuesday 4-5 p. m.
The help that librarians can give in the teaching of English and History. Walter L. Brown, librarian, Buffalo public library.
School administration 2 p. m.
Library development. C. C. Certain, Cass technical high school, Detroit, Mich.
Commercial

Use of the library in teaching commercial subjects. W. E. Bartholomew, State department of education.

Science

The library as an aid in science teaching. James Peabody, Morris high school, New York city.

Rural education

The rural school library, Dr Sherman Williams, School libraries division, Albany, New York.

Business meeting Wednesday 9-10 a. m.

Library, Buffalo normal school
Reports of committees
Plans for development of school library betterment in New York state
The school library campaign. C. C. Certain, Cass technical high school, Detroit, Mich.

JAMES V. STURGES,
Pres. Library Section.
IDA M. MENDENHALL,
Secy.

A letter addressed to school librarians in the state of New York by the School library committee urged, among other things, discussion of the following:

The appointment of a trained school library organizer to assist Dr Williams in putting all school libraries on an efficiency basis.

A thorough survey of school library conditions in New York state, the results to be printed by the State education department.

The incorporation into the Normal school, Training school, Training class, High school, and Elementary syllabi, of minimum requirements in library instruction, followed by library questions in Regents examinations.

The introduction of library discussion into the programs of the following associations: Science teachers' association, Associated academic principals, University convocation, District superintendents, Association of city superintendents.

Library methods for country schools

The Wisconsin law now provides that candidates for county or city teachers' certificates, and hence for state certificates by examination, shall write on the cataloging and use of school libraries. Applicants for third grade certificates were included in this law on January 1, 1915. By this the law implies that teachers in the rural schools shall catalog the school libraries, and county superintendents are requiring their teachers to do so.

In order that the students in our school who are preparing to teach in the rural schools may be fitted for this work, they are required to take a six weeks course in library methods. The object of this course is threefold. The first part of the course is devoted to teaching the use of the tools of any well organized library; the second part to the organization and care of the school library; and the last of the course to acquainting the prospective teachers with children's books for general reading and reference, and teaching them how best to secure effective use of books by the pupils.

When our students are ready to take up cataloging we have sent in from some school in the county a library that needs re-organizing, and the students do the actual work of re-cataloging. First of all the books are cleaned and

mended and the old labels and book plates removed and replaced by new ones. We then proceed systematically to classify, accession and catalog the books. Author, title, subject and necessary subject analytical cards are made and are then arranged alphabetically in the cabinet furnished by the school for that purpose.

We have found this practice very satisfactory. Not only do the students have the actual experience in working on a real problem, but the county has the benefit of the finished work.

Up to this time we have cataloged eight libraries in this way. They have averaged over 300 volumes each, the smallest one being 265 volumes and the largest one 635 volumes. In cataloging the usual three cards are made out for every book, the main author card, the title card and the subject card. Were these the only cards necessary the students could dispatch a book very quickly. But the value of a school library catalog lies in the number of analytical cards it contains; they are the cards most used for reference work. Ten cards for every book is a conservative estimate of the number required. Whereas many books require three only, very many others on the *Township Library List* require no less than 30 or 40. Take for example Chamberlain's Geographical reader, "How we are clothed," with its 30 analyticals as follows: beaver, boots and shoes, buttons, China, clothing, cotton, diamonds, and so on through the list. Any one can see the enormous value of this work in a library devoted to school use. Teachers know that unless each book is carefully gone over and cataloged correctly and accurately, the library misses the service it can and ought to perform for the school.

The rural teacher who is teaching every hour of the day has very little time for this work. It is a simple matter for her to catalog the dozen or so new books added every year, but if the books already in the library have not been correctly cataloged, we cannot blame her for thinking the task is be-

yond her. For it would take a trained cataloger at least six weeks, working eight hours a day, to re-catalog the average rural school library. These figures are given not only to indicate something of the size of the problem which our classes have handled, but to show the amount of money we have saved the district, the only expense to them being the transportation charges and the cost of the cards used in cataloging. The students are most enthusiastic over this work, for they know that they are learning to solve one of their most perplexing problems.—*Report of Delia G. Oritz, librarian of Milwaukee normal school.*

Special work with pupils

The librarian of Public library, Marshalltown, Ia., writes: Letters to High school graduates enclosing the pamphlet "Don't be a quitter" are sent every year. Letters enclosing application cards and setting forth their need of the library are sent all students who do not have library cards on entering High school. Letters explaining privileges of grade libraries and mentioning the large number of pictures available for circulation are sent all new teachers in the fall. Cards announcing the state reading list required of county teachers are sent out regularly. New books of special interest are mailed to patrons. Special bibliographies on every conceivable subject are made for high school teachers. The library compiles the bibliographies for twenty high school debates and reserves the books and magazines for these debates.

A "favorite book" canvass of the school children, both in the grades and in High school, was taken, with results compiled and sent to those interested in reading for children. The style of book preferred by grade children and their comments on their favorites was astonishing as well as enlightening, and showed plainly the immediate need of a "better reading" campaign, and a stricter censorship by parents, librarians and teachers.

Library Schools

Carnegie library of Atlanta

The twelfth session of the library school, Carnegie library of Atlanta, opened Monday, September 16. After a week of preliminary work the regular courses for the first term were commenced, including cataloging, classification and subject headings, reference, book selection, fiction seminar, current events, typewriting.

Louise Bercaw, '16, has been appointed acting librarian of the Carnegie library, Cordele, Georgia.

Margaret Corrigan, '16, has received an appointment on the staff of the Carnegie library of Atlanta.

Margaret Jones, '16, is a member of the training class for children's librarians, Cleveland public library.

Martha Kendrick, '16, has been elected librarian of the Hawkes free children's library, Griffin, Georgia.

Helen Brewer, '13, has resigned her position as librarian of the Carnegie library, Cordele, Georgia, to accept an appointment as assistant in the Public library, Savannah, Georgia.

Caroline Moore, '11, was married on October 12 to J. K. Orr, Jr., Atlanta, Georgia.

TOMMIE DORA BARKER,
Director.

Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh

The Library school opened for the sixteenth year, Wednesday morning, September 27.

The Principal gave the opening talk and Miss Lutie E. Stearns of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, gave three lectures September 27-28.

Twenty-seven junior students, one special student and nine senior students have enrolled.

A reception was given at the Students' house, October 6, to meet the entering class.

Eight branch libraries of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh were visited by the entering class, September 29-October 7, and a tour of the Carnegie institute was made.

Miss Bogle, Miss Power and Miss Whiteman attended the Keystone State library meeting at Wernersville, Pa., October 12-14. Miss Power read a paper on the "Co-operation between the

public library and the public school." A story telling round-table was conducted by Miss Whiteman. Among those who contributed to the round-table were Edith C. C. Balderston, '12-'13; Margaret Carnegie, '15, and Irma Diescher, '16.

Gertrude M. Edwards, '11-'12, has resigned her position of children's librarian, Public library, La Crosse, Wis., to accept a similar position in the Parmly Billings Memorial library, Billings, Mont.

Edith I. Groft, '15, has been made children's librarian of the West End branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Roberta Herron, '17, has been appointed assistant in the children's department of the Detroit public library.

Maud Mitchell, '17, has become children's librarian in the Public library, Minneapolis, Minn.

Ellen W. Peckham, '17, has been appointed assistant in the children's department of the Brooklyn public library.

Lillian Sullivan, '14-'15, has resigned her position of children's librarian in the Detroit public library to take the senior course in the Carnegie library school.

Edith N. Swayne, '17, has accepted the position of children's librarian in the Brooklyn public library.

Jessie Gay Van Cleve, '16, has become children's librarian of the Howe library, Hanover, N. H.

Dorothy Wilson, '14-'15, has resigned from the staff of the Los Angeles public library.

SARAH C. N. BOGLE,
Principal.

University of Illinois

Registration days for the University of Illinois library school occurred September 18-19. A decided increase in registration over that of 1915-16 has been observed. The junior class registered twenty-eight members, the senior class seventeen, and two students from the College of liberal arts and sciences for part of the courses. The senior class represents 10 states, as follows:

Alabama, 1; California, 1; Colorado, 1; Illinois, 5; Indiana, 3; Iowa, 2; Minnesota, 1; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Ohio, 1. The junior class represents eleven states, distributed as follows: California, 1; Illinois, 11; Indiana, 2; Iowa, 3; Minnesota, 2; Missouri, 2; Nebraska, 2; Ohio, 1; Oregon, 1; South Dakota, 1 Texas, 2.

The senior class represents 12 colleges and universities, as follows:

Denver university, 1; Drury college, 1; Grinnell college, 1; Northwestern university, 1; Ohio Wesleyan university, 2; Purdue university, 1; Sophie Newcomb college, 1; University of California, 1; University of Chicago, 3; University of Illinois, 3; University of Minnesota, 1; University of North Dakota, 1. In the junior class 18 institutions are represented: Butler college, 1; Drury college, 1; Indiana university, 1; James Millikin university, 2; Lake Forest, 3; Leland Stanford Jr. university, 1; Lombard college, 1; Ohio Wesleyan university, 1; Southwestern Texas normal school, 1; University of Illinois, 4; University of Iowa, 3; University of Kansas, 1; University of Minnesota, 2; University of Nebraska, 2; University of Texas, 1; Wabash college, 1; Wesleyan university (Connecticut), 1; Yankton college, 1.

On September 25, the members of the school had the pleasure of listening to an informal talk from Mrs Ida A. Kidder, B. L. S. '06, since her graduation librarian of the Oregon State agricultural college at Corvallis. Mrs Kidder's exceedingly interesting address was based largely upon the work of her own library.

The assistant director represented the Illinois library school at the Ohio state meeting in Cincinnati October 3-5. Sixteen former members of this school were present at the dinner on the evening of October 5.

At the meeting of the Illinois library association, the school was represented by Director Windsor, Miss Felsenthal, Miss Vought, Miss Bond and Mr Reece of the faculty.

Students from the University of Illinois library school have received appointments as follows:

Elsie L. Baechtold, B. L. S., '16, librarian of the new Engineering library at the University of Illinois.

Charlotte E. Bussey, '15-16, assistant in the State Normal School library, LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Bessie J. Stewart, '15-16, assistant in the Miami University library, Oxford, Ohio.

Kate D. Ferguson, '14-16, assistant in the Evanston public library.

Gladys Nichols, '14-15, has resigned her position as assistant in the Kewanee public library to accept the position of general assistant in the Lincoln library at Springfield.

Pearl A. Stone, '15-16, librarian of the Maywood high-school library.

Dorothy E. Cook, '15-16, assistant in the University of Illinois library.

Elizabeth Henry, '08-09, has been granted leave of absence from the University of Wyoming and has returned to complete her senior year at the library school.

Cena Sprague, '13-14, has resigned from the catalog department of Iowa State University library, and has returned to complete the work for her degree of B. L. S.

Mary Elizabeth Love, '11-12, was married on August 14 to Fred W. Muncie. Mr and Mrs Muncie will make their home at 512 Michigan Ave., Urbana, Ill.

Alta C. Swigart, B. L. S., '16, was married on June 24 to Daniel Tilden Hoskins, jr. They will reside in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The faculty held a memorial meeting on the death of Miss Mary Wright Plummer and passed resolutions expressing appreciation of her great work in the library field and high esteem for her personal character.

FRANCES SIMPSON

New York public library

The school opened September 25. Eleven students began preliminary practice on September 11.

Faculty changes, already mentioned in PUBLIC LIBRARIES are: The death of Miss Mary Wright Plummer, principal; the resignation of Miss Agnes E. Van Valkenburgh; the appointment of Professor Azariah S. Root of the Oberlin College library as principal for the year 1916-1917; the appointment of Miss Corinne Bacon as instructor in Book selection; and the appointment of Miss Isabella M. Cooper as instructor in cataloging.

Sixty-one students are enrolled, 36 juniors, 4 partial and 21 seniors. The following states are represented in the junior class: New York, 10; Nebraska, 2; Rhode Island, 2; New Jersey, 2; Minnesota, 2; Missouri, 3; Michigan, 2; Washington, 2; one each from the following: California, Virginia, Connecticut, Arkansas, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania,

Iowa, and from abroad, Ireland, 1; Norway, 1; China, 1.

Dr E. C. Richardson, librarian of Princeton university, gave an inspiring talk on "Library preparedness" to the juniors, October 2.

Miss Mary E. Hall of the Brooklyn girls' high-school library is lecturing to the seniors in the school and college course; Mr F. W. Jenkins of the Russell Sage Foundation library, to the seniors in the administration course; and Miss Catharine S. Tracey of the school, to the seniors in the advanced reference and cataloging course.

Special lectures to the junior have been given as follows:

Sept. 27. Mr H. M. Lydenberg. The New York public library.

Sept. 28. Mr C. H. A. Bjerregaard. Reference library work.

Oct. 5. Mr Benjamin Adams. Circulation department of the New York public library.

Oct. 18. Miss Annie Carroll Moore. Children's work in the New York public library.

AZARIAH S. ROOT,
Principal.

New York state library

The New York State Library school opened on September 20. - A rather rigid selection of candidates has resulted in a smaller registration than usual. The customary variety of localities represented is maintained. Besides 19 states, the home localities of the students include two provinces of Canada, Norway and Denmark. All but two seniors and seven juniors have had library experience or training previous to entering the school.

Class organizations have been effected as follows:

Class of 1917: President, Rachel A. Harris; vice-president, Ellen F. Adams; secretary-treasurer, Harold G. Russell.

Class of 1918: President, Herman O. Parkinson; vice-president, Elinor E. Randall; secretary-treasurer, Malcolm O. Young.

The "Students round table," a voluntary library club composed of the students, has organized for the year. Plans

are under way to undertake a series of studies in the organization and management of foreign libraries and to include some other features supplementary to the subjects discussed in the regular seminar. The officers for the school year are: President, Cornelia S. Love, '17; vice-president, Mary B. Brewster, '18; secretary-treasurer, Elisabeth Weeks, '18.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of the following former students:

Marie Driscoll, '16, to Stephen Barker Vernon of Albany, N. Y., September 23, at Reading, Pa.

Frances Fordice, '11, to Charles Edward Fink of Rosendale, Wis., September 27, at Rosendale.

Kathleen Holdridge, '10, to N. Lee Mahan of Knoxville, Tenn., July 31, at Chicago, Ill.

Mildred K. Jones, '11-12, to Arthur Eugene Snyder of Concord Junction, Mass., June 7, at Utica, N. Y.

Martha C. Kessel, '12-13, to Raymond Weaver Haas of Eldora, Iowa, May 30, at Cresco, Iowa.

Fannie M. Smith, '06-07, to Franklin Brown Powers of Poland, Ohio, June 29, at Warsaw, N. Y.

Harold L. Wheeler, '13, librarian of the Missouri school of mines and metallurgy, Rolla, to Kate Weston Tipton, July 20, at Washington, D. C.

F. K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

Nowhere could Miss Plummer's loss have been felt more keenly than in this school with which she was identified for so many years. The time that she has been away from us seems in retrospect but a moment compared to the long term of her life and service among us. To Miss Plummer's power of organization and her understanding of the needs of the profession, this school owes much, and to the graduates she has always been a wise counsellor and a true friend. Suitable action in her memory will be taken by the Graduates' association.

The school opened on September 18 with the full complement of students. Geographically there are five enrolled from New York, four from Pennsylvania, three from Connecticut, two each from Massachusetts, Maryland, Ohio and Oregon, and one each from New Hampshire, New Jersey, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa and Italy. The following uni-

versities are represented among the membership: Wellesley college, Bates college, Marietta college, Western Reserve university, Dickinson college, Augustana college, Wilson college, the Iowa State Teachers' college, Leland Stanford university and the University of Rome. Two of the students are graduates of Russian gymnasia. Seventeen of the class have had previous library experience, and there are representatives from the staffs of the New York and Brooklyn public libraries, and the public libraries of Berlin, N. H., Stamford, Conn., Williamsport, Pa., Newark, Ohio, Waterloo, Iowa, and Portland, Oregon, while three of the students have taken apprentice courses in public libraries. In addition to the library experience, seven have taught, three have had business experience, and indeed all but three members of the class have had some kind of practical experience since leaving school or college.

The marriage is announced, of Louise Merrill, '02, to Chester H. Tapping, Oct. 11.

Florence L. Crosier, '14, who has been an assistant in the Cleveland Public Library system, has been made librarian of the Alta branch.

Miss Ruth S. Hull, '15, who has been on the staff of Clark College library, Worcester, Mass., has accepted a position in the library of Girard college, Philadelphia.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

Simmons college

The regular program* for the college year started September 21, with little friction, though the beginning of practice work in the field, which is to be much more of a feature this year, was delayed somewhat as an extra precaution to ensure "Health first."

The reference classes began as usual, notwithstanding the delay in the issue of the new edition of Kroeger's Guide, for in a college schedule it is an exceedingly difficult thing to switch courses about, as the publishers of the Guide lightheartedly suggested.

*Correction: The notes given under the caption "University of Illinois" in October PUBLIC LIBRARIES, formed a part of the Simmons college notes.—Editor.

In library economy, the subjects of binding, printing and editing began the year with visits to the Riverside and Ginn presses, to a bindery, and to the Boston Museum of fine arts.

The time allotted to the course in documents has been increased this year so that the class may meet once a week at the State library with Mr Belden, who with the rich resources of his own library at hand, can make documents seem more vital.

The course on library buildings is being planned entirely anew this year, and we are most fortunate in having an introductory lecture from the architect's point of view by J. Randolph Coolidge, jr., of Boston, promised us, which is to be followed by four from John A. Lowe of the Massachusetts public library commission.

Dean Blackshire, 1915-16, is the librarian and history teacher in the High school, Miller, South Dakota.

Barbara Bolles, '15-16, was appointed a cataloger in the University of Missouri library.

Helen Carleton, '14, has been appointed on the staff of the Minnesota public library commission.

Esther S. Chapin, '13, has gone to the Ohio State University library as cataloger.

Annie L. Craigie, '15-16, has been appointed to the Brooklyn Public Library staff.

Elsie Cruttenden, '16, is now a cataloger in the Leland Stanford library.

Louise Hoxie was appointed an assistant in the Somerville public library some months ago.

Effie A. Keith, '09-10, is head cataloger, Northwestern university, Evanston, Ill.

Katherine Middleton, '12-15, is cataloging for the New York public library.

Anna Monahan, '08, has accepted the position of head of the filing department with the Sturtevant Company.

Mildred Page, '14, is at the Clark University library this year.

Mary A. Pinkham, '15, has resigned from the Clark University library.

Mary E. Rogers, '16, has been appointed in the children's department of the New York public library.

Ruth Shattuck, '10, is an assistant in the issue department of the Brookline public library.

Gertrude Shaw is librarian of the Boston Y. M. C. A.

Grace Thompson, '13-14, has resigned from the Brooklyn public library to catalog for the Massachusetts state library.

Dorothy Whiting, 1913-14, has been made librarian of the Public library at Winsted, Conn.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,
Director.

Syracuse university

Because of the danger from infantile paralysis, the opening of the library school, as of the other schools and colleges of the university, was postponed from September 19 to October 4.

The additions to the equipment of the library school have made necessary its expansion into larger quarters. The books used for children's work and for book selection have been placed in a new room which will be in charge of Miss Thorne who gives the courses in these subjects. The library seminar room will continue as before under the supervision of Miss Smith.

In the large fire of September 23-24 which completely destroyed the business and manufacturing section of Phoenix, N. Y., Miss Wandell of the Library School faculty was so unfortunate as to have her house and its contents totally destroyed.

Members of the class of 1916 have the following positions: Eleanor Church and Dorothy Welch in the Syracuse University library; Mary Dollard and Leila Dominick in the Syracuse public library; Pauline Griffith and Vivien Diefenderfer in the Buffalo public library; Fanny C. Howe, library of the University of Pennsylvania; Carolyn Merriman, Reynolds library, Rochester, N. Y.; Helen Stiles, Public library, New Haven, Ct.; Esther Wright, library of Alexander Hamilton institute, New York City; Edna Whitely, Brooklyn public library; Fanny Sattinger, Public library, Indianapolis, Ind.; Margaret Snavlin, library of Grinnell college, Grinnell, Iowa.

E. E. SPERRY,
Director.

Western Reserve university

The opening exercises of the school were held on the afternoon of September 19. President Thwing presided and spoke briefly, and was followed by the Dean and Director. The class of 1917

comprises 25 regular students and one partial time student. The states represented are as follows: Ohio, 15 (of which 7 are from Cleveland); New York, 2; Pennsylvania, 3; Michigan, 1; Indiana, 1; Illinois, 1; California, 2. Of these four have college degrees and 15 have had some college work.

The first visiting lecturer to the school was Miss Lutie E. Stearns of Milwaukee, who spoke on "The library spirit" and brought to the class her usual stimulating message of helpful service and good cheer. The students had the opportunity of meeting her after the lecture at an informal tea.

Miss Helen M. Smith, Dean of the College for women, W. R. U., spoke to the students, Sept. 28, on the co-operation between the two schools and the ideals and aims of both.

A sightseeing trip through the parks and residence districts of Cleveland was arranged for the second Saturday afternoon for the students who were strangers in the city.

The meeting of the Ohio library association in Cincinnati, Oct. 3-6, was attended by two of the faculty—Miss Harriet E. Howe and the Director. A pleasant feature of the meeting was an "All-library-schools" dinner, where messages were presented in person by faculty members, or read by representatives of the various library schools. The director of W. R. L. S. was asked to preside, representing the "hostess" Ohio school. The list of officers of the O. L. A. for next year includes the name of the director as president.

The school is indebted to the generous interest of the Alumni association in providing a Balopticon lantern, which was presented to the school at the beginning of the year.

Ruth M. Fornwalt, '15, has resigned her position in Sioux City, Iowa, to become cataloger in the Public library, Homestead, Pennsylvania.

Beatrice F. Margolies, '12, leaves the Public library, Lakewood, Ohio, to become cataloger at the University of Indiana, Bloomington, Ind.

Changes in positions in the Cleveland public library system include promotions for the following: Sarah A. Thomas, '10;

Emelia E. Wefel, '11; Abbie Ward, '12; Edna M. Little, '13; Hattie Stokely, '13; Victoria Bronson, '14.

Bessie H. Kelsey, '13, who has been on leave of absence for two years, returns to the Cleveland public library.

Further appointments of the class of 1916 are as follows:

Dorothy A. Bray goes to the Detroit public library.

Ethel F. Bowers, Periodical division, Detroit public library.

Elizabeth J. Herrington, North Portland branch, Public library, Portland, Oregon.

Helen L. Shearer, Bowen branch, Detroit public library.

Ida C. Lucht, senior assistant, Lathrop branch, Detroit public library.

Nora M. Clark, first assistant, West branch, Cleveland public library.

Miss Ruth A. Hapgood died at her home in Warren, Ohio, Sept. 28, after an extended period of ill health. She was librarian of the East 79th St. branch at the time of her death, and had been on the staff of the Cleveland public library in various positions since completing her library school course.

ALICE S. TYLER,
Director.

University of Wisconsin

The school opened September 20, with 37 students, the largest number in its history. The new class received a letter of greeting from the class of 1916, and a subscription to the official student daily publication of the university.

Owing to an increase of duties, Miss Hazeltine finds it necessary to give up the course in reference work. The course will be given this year by Mr C. B. Lester, Legislative reference department. Miss Julia Stockett, who has been most actively connected with the school for two years, will be acting-librarian of the University of Idaho during the year, and her place in the school will be filled by Miss Helen R. Cochran, of the class of 1916.

Thirteen states are represented in the school, with the District of Columbia and Norway. Six are college graduates, one of them having a master's degree. Six are seniors in the joint course with the College of letters and science. Seven have had from one to two years of college work. Nineteen have one or more years of library experience. Four entered with appren-

ticeship varying from six months to two years. The rest have met the required 12 weeks' apprenticeship experience in an accredited library.

Grace Lane, '09, was married in June to Leon M. Young, of Promontory Point, Utah.

Helen Pfeiffer, '12, was married in June to John P. Cargill, St. Joseph, Mo.

Ruth A. Stetson was married in June to Owen D. Speer, Deer Lodge, Mont.

Loretta von Syberg, '15, was married in June to John E. Urquhart, Milwaukee, Wis.

Gretchen L. Flower, '10, will attend the University of Wisconsin the ensuing year.

Nora Beust, '13, has been made children's librarian of the Public library of La Crosse.

Verna M. Evans, '14, has been appointed cataloger in the Public library, San Diego, Cal.

May C. Lewis, '14, has been appointed assistant in the Free library of Madison, filling a vacancy caused by the continued illness of Miss Georgia R. Hough.

Rachel Angvick has joined the staff of the Public library of Minneapolis.

Leona L. Clark, '15, has taken a position with the Wisconsin civil service commission.

Eileen M. Duggan, '15, has resigned as librarian at Clarinda, Ia., because of her mother's ill health.

Bergljot Gundersen, '15, who spent last year in the Cleveland training class for children's librarians, has returned to Kristiania, Norway, to be chief of the children's department of the Deichmanske library.

Erma M. Walker, '15, has been elected librarian of the high school library of Biwabik, Minn.

Ruth Worden, '15, resigned her position in the Public library, Buffalo, to be assistant in the Public library of Missoula, Mont.

Members of the class of 1916 are connected with the following institutions: Siree Andrews, Cleveland public library; Ava L. Cochran, Hancock High School library; Mrs W. L. Davis, Public library, Ft. Atkinson; Helen E. Farr, Detroit public library; Lillian M. Flagg, Brooklyn public library; Leona M. Hamilton, University of Idaho library; Vivian C. Little, Watertown, (Wis.) public library; Hazel F. Long, student, Cleveland public library; Amy L. Meyer, Detroit public library; Esther L. Patterson, Madison public library; Edna L. Roessler, Platteville normal school library; Evelyn T. Rose, student, Cleveland public library; Gertrude E. Schwab, Milwaukee public library; Charlotte E. Smith, Chicago public library.

A course in library science for teachers has been established as a part of the university curriculum. It will be conducted by the faculty of the library school, and open to college juniors and

seniors who are prospective teachers.

A particularly successful summer session was carried on for six weeks under the direction of Miss Margaret F. Carpenter, with 25 regular students and two special students, all of whom, except three, were from Wisconsin.

Training classes

The Cleveland class for work with children of 1915-16 finished the year with eight members, one student, Lena G. Towsley, having dropped out January 1 on account of ill health. Miss Mari Harboc-Lund returned to her former post, head of the Children's department, Kristiania, Norway. Miss Bergljot Gundersen also returned to Norway, where she will take up library work with children. The appointments to the staff of the Cleveland library are as follows: Catherine Head, Ethel Jones, Georgiana Mineau, Pauline Yager, Amelia Robie, Mildred Moore.

The class of 1916-17 opened September 14 with 13 students. Ten of the number are library school graduates; the other three have had from four to six years of library experience. Four colleges, a kindergarten training school and two commercial schools are represented in addition to five library schools, Atlanta, Pratt, Simmons, Syracuse, Wisconsin, and the St. Louis public library.

Nine of the students have had practical library experience; the average per student is more than four years of such experience.

The different libraries represented are New York; St. Louis; Buffalo; Cleveland; Madison, Wis.; Whiting, Ind.; West Bend, Wis.; Bergen, Norway; St. Johns, New Brunswick; Acadia university, Nova Scotia.

The training class of the Los Angeles public library began work October 2 with 18 members. Iowa and Minnesota are the only states represented outside of California. Two of the students have had library experience, nine have attended college, and two are graduates of normal schools. A number of library at-

tendants in nearby towns will attend some of the special courses.

The training class of the Library association of Portland, Ore., began its work in October. There are 10 members, of whom five have had college or university training, two have had previous library experience, three have been teachers, two have done social service work, and nine have knowledge of one or more foreign languages.

The schedule of class hours has been increased to 340, and the hours of assigned practice work to 500. There will be a close correlation of the practical and theoretical work of the class so that every member may derive the utmost possible instruction from both sources of information. The class is directed by Miss Ethel R. Sawyer.

The training class of the St. Louis public library began its work in September with 15 members. A large percentage of the applicants offered more than the required credits, i. e., the high school course. The curriculum was strengthened this year, and the practice work was cut down accordingly.

The sixteenth annual session of the Chautauqua library school was held July 8-August 18.

The instructors were Miss Mary E. Downey, Library organization and administration; Miss Mary M. Shaver, Vassar College library, Cataloging and classification; Miss Ruth Wallace, Public library, Evansville, Indiana. Reference work.

The work of the regular instructors was supplemented by lectures on the general program related to library work and by special lectures before the school as follows: Mr. Vaughan MacCaughy, Nature study books from the scientist's point of view; Earl Barnes, British Museum library; Prof. S. C. Schmucker, "My way with a book"; Miss Frances Cleveland, Township library extension; Prof. J. E. Hull, "Peace literature"; B. W. Huebsch, "Book publishing and selling"; Miss Nancy Beyer gave two talks on "Li-

brary binding and mending," which the students followed with practical work in mending and recasing books. The students also attended Miss Mabel C. Bragg's story telling classes.

In addition to using the Chautauqua library, the school made trips to Westfield where the Patterson library was used to further demonstrate the subjects of study.

There were many visiting librarians, trustees and others interested in library work who attended special lectures and consulted in regard to library matters.

There were 43 students representing 15 states.

News from the Field

East

Grace A. Child, Pratt '97, of the Hartford Public Library staff, has been made librarian of the high-school at Winsted, Conn.

Susan C. Crampton, N. Y. State, '02, conducted the course in reference work at the Simmons College summer library school.

Miss Harriett L. Matthews, librarian of the Public library of Lynn, Mass., who has been connected with the library for half a century, has resigned her position.

Florence I. Holmes, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '12, is engaged temporarily in cataloging the special collection of European war literature at Clark university, Worcester, Mass.

The report of the librarian of the Public library of Bangor, Me., records the number of books on the shelves, 43,323 v.; circulation, 82,956 v.; with 4,945 card holders.

A gift of \$5,000. by the will of G. S. Lynde of New York City, and another of \$100,000 by the will of L. H. Pierce, of Chicago, have been received.

The report of the City library association of Springfield, Mass., records a circulation of 813,921 v., the largest in its history. There was an increase of more than 19,000 in the circulation of pictures,

and 6,150 new cards were issued. The picture collection consists of more than 150,000 prints and photographs, from costly plates to magazine clippings.

The calls for good popular books other than fiction were met by supplying extra copies. Four copies of Thayer's "John Hay;" five of Hale's "We discover New England;" six of Blackford's "Analyzing character;" 10 of "The promised land;" 26 Grayson's "Adventures in friendship," and various other books, were supplied.

The rooms of the Public library of Dalton, Mass., have been re-arranged and enlarged. The library itself has been reorganized. A junior room has been opened, and the whole institution made much more attractive and usable. The library has 11,000 v. on its shelves and attempts to meet not only the general readers, but the special needs of each class in the community. Work with the schools is especially cared for. A course of instruction in the high school on the use of the library is bringing good results. The librarian, Mrs. Caroline Flickinger, assisted by Miss Nellie Hoxie and Hazel Attenborough, are making the library a great educational center.

Central Atlantic

Mildred H. Pope, N. Y. State, '15-'16, has been appointed librarian of the Albany free library.

Max Meisel, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '16, has been appointed assistant in the Science division of the New York public library.

Julia A. C. Kerr, N. Y. State, '15-'16, has been appointed assistant in the catalog department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Christian R. Dick, N. Y. State, '15-'16, has gone to the Carnegie free library of Allegheny, Pittsburgh, as head of the catalog department.

Miss Edyth L. Miller, Pratt '03, of the Harvard University cataloging staff, has been appointed librarian of the International health commission of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Paul N. Rice, N. Y. State, '12, for the past two years reference assistant in the Public catalog room of the New York public library, has been made chief of the stack for the current year.

The children's department of the Brooklyn public library was closed July 5-Sept. 25, which occasioned a decrease in the circulation of the library of 458,-967 v., for the three months.

Mary E. Cobb, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '15, has resigned her position as assistant in the children's department of the Brooklyn public library to become librarian of the New York State college for teachers, Albany, N. Y.

Mark Twain's works in the New York public library are issued in many languages through the circulation department. There are Little Russian and Polish translations of Huckleberry Finn; twelve titles in German; six in Hungarian; five in Bohemian, and other stories in Danish, Finnish, Italian, Spanish and Swedish.

Clara E. Fanning has joined the staff of the Public library of the District of Columbia in the Reference department, succeeding Grace E. Babbitt, who has been obliged to withdraw from library work on account of ill health. Miss Fanning was for many years with the H. W. Wilson Co., and is the editor of many of the Wilson publications.

An interesting exhibit on view at the New York public library, is that which shows the history of printing from the baked clay tablets of Babylon, down to the printing press in common use. Hebrew scrolls, manuscripts on palm leaves and on papyrus, Persian illuminated manuscripts, illuminated manuscripts of the Middle Ages, a manuscript more than a thousand years old, and other interesting exhibits show the history of printing.

The library of the Public Health department of New York City has been taken over by the Municipal reference library and developed to meet the special demands of the various bureaus of

the department. Sarah N. Halliday, librarian of the Lederle laboratories, has been placed in charge of this new department.

The twentieth annual report of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh is unusually attractive in both its make-up and contents. The somber over-seriousness of the average library report has been successfully avoided.

One of the most significant facts of the year's work is shown in the comparatively slight decrease in circulation, 1,355,980 v. as against 1,508,328 v. in 1914, even though the number of agencies for distribution was almost cut in half owing to lack of funds. The number of registered borrowers holding cards increased from 111,406 to 113,659. In spite of the fact that the children's rooms were closed in the evening, there was but little decrease in the juvenile circulation.

Especial stress is laid upon the work with schools during the year, leading up to the establishment of libraries, under the charge of trained librarians, in the high schools. These have, up to this time, been merely deposit stations. The new plan will call for intimate co-operation between the library and the board of education.

It is a tribute to the librarian and the staff that, with decreased appropriation and a consequent reduction in staff, they have been able to increase their efficiency to the constantly growing demands of a rapidly growing population.

The twentieth annual report of the Free library of Philadelphia (1915) places the total number of bound volumes at 494,992; total number of pamphlets 229,607; number of volumes lent for home use, 2,730,173. Twenty-six branches are now in operation, 18 of them having been erected out of funds contributed by Mr Carnegie. The Haddington branch, pictures of which are given, was opened on December 3, 1915. New buildings for the McPherson Square branch and Nicetown branch are stated to be under way, and plans are being drawn for the Logan branch.

A sum nearly sufficient to complete the new main library building on the Parkway has been voted, and it is proposed to break ground for this building, which will cost in the neighborhood of \$3,500,000, before the end of the current year.

The apprentice class has enlarged its course of instruction from 14 to 34 lectures, and graduated 13 students in the Spring of 1916. All the departments of the library show satisfactory growth, the work of each being described in detail. Suitable recognition is made of the services of the late librarian, Dr John Thomson, a reproduction of whose portrait by Henry Rittenberg appears as a frontispiece to the report.

Central

Miss Edna Shepard has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Mankato, Minn.

A regulation allowing five books on any kind of card has been adopted by the Chicago public library.

Honor Plummer, Illinois, B. L. S., '12, has been appointed assistant in the Kansas City public library.

Elizabeth H. Cass, Illinois, B. L. S., '13, has been appointed librarian of the Portland Cement association, Chicago, Ill.

The Iowa library commission had a room at the Women and Children's building at the Iowa state fair.

Maude E. Allen, N. Y. State, '15-'16, has been appointed library inspector and instructor for the various county normal schools of Michigan.

Edith Lounsbury, N. Y. State, '15-16, has gone to the Public library, Sioux City, Iowa, as assistant in the circulation department.

Clara L. Bronk, N. Y. State, '14-15, has been appointed assistant in the Lake Erie College library, Painesville, Ohio.

Elizabeth Forrest, Illinois, B. L. S., '06, librarian of the Montana agricultural college, will spend the coming year in graduate study at the University of Chicago.

Vera M. Dixon, Pratt '12, head of the technical department of the Public library, Portland, Ore., has been made assistant librarian of the Ames College library, Ames, Iowa.

Edna G. Moore, N. Y. State, '14-'15, resigned her position as assistant cataloger at the University of Missouri library to undertake similar work in the Detroit public library.

A gift of \$25,000 from the Carnegie Corporation for a building in Argentine, a suburb of Kansas City, will provide a branch library building by the first of the year.

The annual report of the Public library of Sedalia, Mo., records a circulation of 75,988v.; borrowers, 4,275; revenue, \$5,865; number of volumes on the shelves, 16,907.

Izella M. Dart, N. Y. State, '14-15, has resigned her position in the Lake Erie College library to become librarian of the State normal school at Moorhead, Minn.

Miss Frances Fordice, librarian of the Public library of Sedalia, Mo., resigned her position and was married Sept. 27. She is succeeded as librarian by Miss Irene Blair.

Miss Katherine D. Steele, Pratt '09, for several years librarian of the Hearst free library and reading rooms, has accepted a position in the medical library of the Mayo clinic at Rochester, Minn.

Mary H. Clark, Illinois, B. L. S., '03, has resigned from the faculty of the Western Reserve University library school, and has been appointed assistant in the reference department of the Cleveland public library.

The auditoriums of the branch library buildings of Detroit have been turned over for the accommodation of the public schools of the city, to be used to relieve the congestion of many of the district schools.

Miss Agnes F. Greer, Pratt '08, head of the circulation department of the Tacoma public library, has been made director of branches and the apprentice

class of the Public library at Kansas City, Mo.

The St. Louis public library had an exhibit at the St. Louis agriculture fair, Oct. 2-7. Books were issued from the booth in the regular way, and there was a story hour for adults every day at four o'clock. The attendance was most unusual.

The number of books in the library of William Jewell college, of Liberty, Mo., has been increased to 27,900. There are 142 periodicals, and 11 daily newspapers on file. The total number of books circulated from the library was 6,063 v.

Plans have been adopted by the Board of directors of the Chicago public library and by the Board of education, providing for quarters for branches of the Public library in the public school buildings, to be erected in the future.

The library board of Cleveland has been given possession of the old City hall site on which to build its new \$2,000,000 building, as soon as possible. The deed for the property does not use the term, "Main library," in order that the board may be free in the future to use it for a branch if it seems wise. The City hall site will revert to the city if the library board ceases to use it for library purposes.

The report of the library of the State normal school, Milwaukee, Delia G. Ovit, librarian, states that it serves in the school 1,646 persons and was open during the year 171 days. The library contains 26,000 books in the reference department and 30,724 in the textbook department; number of pamphlets, 9,000; number of pictures, 8,000; number of clippings, 480. Total recorded for home use: faculty, 1,403; students in normal school, 58,985; pupils in training school, 3,511. Number of juniors taking library instruction, 175; number of seniors, 260.

The Public library of Marshalltown, Ia., has been re-classified, accompanied by changing, re-making and filing, over

17,000 new typed catalog cards. All of this work was accomplished by the regular staff. The intimate association with each book proved a great benefit to them.

Lectures on the use of the library and its contents were given to the freshman class of the high school. A "favorite book" canvass of the school children in both the grades and the high school, showed plainly the need of a "Better reading" campaign, and stricter censorship by parents, librarians and teachers. A bird guessing contest was held in the children's room in the spring, and the results showed an unusually intimate knowledge of local bird life.

South

Ruth Sanke, Illinois, '14-15, during the past year assistant librarian of the Texas State normal school at Huntsville, has been made librarian.

Mary A. Osgood, Illinois, B. L. S., '04, has resigned her position as librarian of the Fort Smith (Arkansas) public library, to take charge of the Westport branch of the Kansas City public library.

Mary U. Rothrock, for some time connected with the Cossitt library, Memphis, has been appointed librarian of the Lawson McGhee library of Knoxville, Tenn. The latter library heretofore has been a subscription library. With the new building nearing completion, the city has assumed the maintenance and it is now free to the public.

The Public library of Birmingham, Ala., distributed 8,000 leaflets through the public schools, playgrounds, boy scouts, boys' clubs, etc., calling attention to the Public library, and bringing its opportunities and pleasures before the young people in a most attractive form. The increased use of the library during the summer months seems to be traceable to the influence of the leaflet.

West

A series of sub-stations of the Public library is to be established in the public schools of Kearney, Nebraska.

Miss Lucia Haley, Pratt '12, has been

appointed librarian of the Public library at La Grande, Oregon.

The report of the Public library of Kansas City, Kans., records a circulation of 151,446 v.; books on the shelves, 27,434 v.

Elizabeth T. Stout, Illinois, B. L. S., '08, has resigned her position in the Sioux City (Iowa) public library to accept the position of librarian of the Montana agricultural college at Bozeman.

The Public library of Lincoln, Nebr., records a circulation of 212,731 v., of which 40,309 v. were juvenile. Number of cards in force, 11,932. Work through the branches was unusually active.

A report on new libraries in Kansas since October, 1915, compiled by W. H. Kerr, of the State normal school at Emporia, states that there are 18 new libraries in Kansas, all privately supported. There are still 24 Kansas counties having no public libraries, either privately or tax supported, and 22 of these are in the western half of the state. Five Kansas libraries have changed from private to public tax support in the year. There are now 74 tax supported public libraries in the state and 75 privately supported.

Pacific Coast

Lucia Haley, Pratt '12, has been appointed librarian of the Public library at La Grande, Oregon.

Agnes M. Cole, Illinois, B. L. S., '01, has been appointed assistant in the University of California library.

Verne Bowles, N. Y. State, '14, has been appointed first assistant cataloger for the State college of Washington at Pullman.

Marguerite Burnett, Pratt '13, assistant cataloger at the Provincial library, Victoria, B. C., has been made librarian of the Lincoln high school in Portland, Oregon.

A fund of one-half million dollars has been set aside for additions to the new Leland Stanford library, to stand in the center of the second Stanford quadrangle.

Elizabeth R. Topping has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Everett, Wash., to succeed Miss Mary Frank, who has resigned to take charge of the Rivington St. branch of the New York public library. Laura Cummings, formerly of the Public library, of Salem, Ore., has been appointed children's librarian at Everett.

The report of the A. K. Smiley library, Redland, Cal., for 1915-1916, records the number of volumes as 29,388; registration, 5,709; circulation, 115,591. Weeding out of dead cards caused a loss of 3,097 names, but the list is now reliable. The reading room attendance on Sundays and holidays was 13,020. The receipts were \$10,477; expenditures, \$10,465, including \$1,458 for books, \$544 for periodicals, \$586 for binding, and \$5,445 for salaries.

The statistics in the annual report of the Public library of Seattle, record the circulation for home use, 1,369,485 v.; pictures for home use, 21,390; total circulation, 330,834. Number of registered borrowers, 66,186. No account was kept of the number of people using the reading room. The number of volumes on the shelves, 254,636. Receipts for the year, \$171,298. Expenditures for books, \$26,975; periodicals, \$2,943; binding, including salaries of binders, \$10,482. Salaries for library service, \$86,405; salaries for other service, \$15,605.

Foreign

Mme L. Haffkin-Hamburger, who made a tour of American libraries and attended the summer session of the New York State library school in 1914, has been conducting a course of lectures on library economy at Astrachan. A special type of traveling libraries has been developed to meet the peculiar needs of the district. This is one of a series of summer courses planned by the "zemstvos." In these courses special attention will be paid to rural libraries. A Russian library association has been founded at Moscow, with Mme Haffkin-Hamburger the first president.